Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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POLL RESULTS

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the lowest, what's your level of confidence that rebates and refunds will be issued before the year ends?

1	94
2	9
3	15
4	5
5	22

Sunday, July 17, 2011

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Public Appeal

Racing the debt clock, President Barack Obama appeals to the public.

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Free Casey

Casey Anthony is free, 12 days after she was acquitted of murdering her daughter.

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Splitsville

Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony announce that they were no longer together.

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AHEAD OF NOV. 28 DEADLINE

Only 22 so far approved for E-2 investor status—GAO

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

With the Nov. 28 expiration of umbrella permits fast approaching, the U.S. Government Accountability Office is now saying that local businesses applying for E-2 CNMI investor status are not in the numbers they were expecting.

» Filipino, Korean workers may become subject to SS payroll taxes

In early Friday morning's public hearing by the House Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs on Public Law 110-229 and H.R. 1466, GAO International Affairs and Trade director David Gootnick testified that as of June 2011 only 22 applications for E-2 CNMI investor status have so far been approved by the U.S.

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EIGHT WEEKS LATER

Police officer Jason Tarkong, left, explains the Department of Public Safety's investigation strategy in the mysterious disappearance of sisters Faloma and Maleina Luhk as DPS Commissioner Ramon Mafnas, right, and Department of Corrections director Arnold Seman listen during a media briefing on Friday at DOC's conference room.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

See story on Page 5

'Local leaders consulted on HR 1466'

» Kilili says Fitial misunderstands bill

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Contrary to what local lawmakers are saying, Delagate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) said he did consult with them on H.R. 1466, which seeks to grant CNMI-only resident status for limited groups of people in the CNMI.

A day after the House Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs' hearing on Sablan's bill and on Public Law 110-229, Sablan said he met with local lawmakers at the Legislature as recent as June 6 to discuss H.R. 1466.

"I have spoken and will continue to speak with many individuals in

See HR1466 on Page 4

Musician Sawada dies

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Japanese musician and songwriter Taiji Sawada died yesterday morning at the Commonwealth Health Center, *Saipan Tribune* learned, some three days after he reportedly tried to kill himself.

A Department of Public Safety official confirmed that Sawada passed away at 11am. The official, who requested anonymity, said that Sawada's body was taken to CHC's morgue. He refused to elaborate.

A Department of Public Health staff separately said that Sawada had been on life support at the intensive care unit after he became brain dead. Sawada's family made the decision to unhook the life sup-

See SAWADA on Page 4

Garrison files EEOC complaint vs Sablan

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Marianas High School principal Craig Garrison on Friday filed a discrimination complaint against Education Commissioner Rita Sablan with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, two days after Sablan placed him on administrative leave.

Sablan declined to comment yesterday besides saying that she will let the process take place.

Garrison confirmed with the *Saipan Tribune* that his complaint form and af-

See EEOC on Page 4

Garrison

Sablan

Survey forms on NMI prevailing wages out today. PAGE 3
Investigators want deeper probe on man with birthmark. PAGE 5

Local

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUGAR DOCK BOAT LAUNCHING RAMP WILL BE CLOSE TEMPORARILY FROM JULY 21, 2011 THRU AUGUST 06, 2011. THIS IS NECESSARY FOR THE DIV. OF FISH AND WILDLIFE TO REMOVE THE ACCUMULATED SAND ON THE BOAT RAMP AND CHANNEL AREA. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLS. CALL 664-6000

NREL identifies viable renewable energy sources for the CNMI

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

An assessment report submitted by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory concluded that opportunity exists for the implementation of renewable energy technologies in the CNMI.

NREL's "Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands Initial Technical Assessment Report" identified wind, solar, geothermal, and biomass production as having potential for development in the Commonwealth, which is currently 100 percent dependent on imported fossil fuel for its energy supply needs.

The study said the available wind resource combined with reasonable infrastructure, general small size, and high-energy costs make wind technology a very viable option.

However, the limited grid infrastructure and limited available land on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, will make the installation of large wind technologies more complicated and costly, the report stated.

Based on current electricity costs in the CNMI, NREL said solar hot water systems provide an opportunity for energy and cost savings in both commercial and residential applications.

A solar photovoltaic installation, meanwhile, could be ideal for remote areas like Bird Island, Banzai Cliff, and the Grotto, "likely at a greatly reduced cost compared to conventional options," said the report.

Potential geothermal sites were identified by NREL in Susupe, Donni, Achugao, Tanapag, and Gualo Rai with the latter the most promising with two water wells exhibiting elevated temperatures. "Hydrothermal systems may be present in the volcanic basement rock underlying the carbonate aquifer blanketing Saipan."

As for biomass, the study recommended that paper, cardboard, wood wastes, and tires that the Marpi landfill receives should be used as feedstock for a combustion or gasification system.

It also suggested that other waste products, such as green waste, wastewater treatment plant sludge, agricultural residues, and animal wastes, could also be used as feedstocks to produce thermal or electric energy.

The report further recommended that the CNMI Energy Task Force work with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and the departments of Land and Natural Resources and Public Lands to identify available land area.

It, however, said that renewable energy development should consider zoning, avian, and other environmental considerations, and may require input from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

NREL also called for strategic planning for the following:

- Determine if a geothermal resource exists on Saipan, pursue efforts to drill one or more geothermal temperature gradient holes 2,000 to 3,000 feet deep to verify the presence of heat at economically viable depths.
- Conduct wind anemometry studies at locations identified in the report and analyze results to determine wind energy potential.
- Conduct a feasibility study for solar photovoltaic installations.
- Develop solar water heating implementation programs for residential, commercial, and appropriate government buildings.
- Consideration should be given to all alternative fuel potential in the form of waste-to-energy, landfill gas, biofuels, and biomass crops.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled on **Thursday, July 21, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.** The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
a. Call to Order
b. Roll Call
II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
a. April 12, 2011 – Regular Board Meeting Minutes
b. April 19, 2011 – Special Board Meeting Minutes
IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS
V. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
a. CDBG Updates
b. PY 2011 CDBG Proposals
VI. MORTGAGE CREDIT PROGRAM
a. Lease-To-Own of NMHC Properties
b. REO Purchase
c. MPLT Accounts at BOH Update
d. HOME Loans for Approval
e. USDA RD new MOU
f. Other Loan Matters
VII. PROGRAM & HOUSING
a. Section 8 New Construction Program: Liyo Update
VIII. FIELD OFFICE REPORTS
IX. FISCAL AFFAIRS
a. Amended Budget for FY 2012
b. Financial Statements
c. BOH Reserve Account
d. Outstanding Receivable for BOH Non-MPLT and MPLT Accounts
e. HUD Grants Update
X. EXECUTIVE SESSION
XI. OTHER MATTERS
a. LIHTC Updates
b. LIHTC Evaluations
XII. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ **MARCIE M. TOMOKANE**
Chairwoman of the Board

Survey forms on prevailing wages in NMI out today

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will begin distributing today, July 18, the 2011 Survey of Wages, Salaries & Benefits survey forms to conduct the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands' first prevailing wage survey. The survey reports can be used in establishing prevailing wage rate determinations for CNMI employers applying for USCIS employment visas for existing and future foreign workers.

The electronic email announcement will be distributed by the Guam Employers Council, contracted by SCC to conduct the survey. For those companies, organizations and other business and government entities wishing to receive faxed or hard copies, SCC will be distributing the same material for those that submit a request.

The material will include a cover letter and instructions with links to forms and instructions. These include a section listing job titles and descriptions (Standard Occupational Classifications), the data entry form for wages and salaries and the data entry form for benefits. Employers can choose to respond electronically or by fax.

The cover letter states there is no charge for participating in the survey, and in return for those that return a complete response, the participant will receive the *Summary Wage & Salary Report* and the *Summary Benefits Report* free of charge. Others that choose not to participate in the survey cannot utilize the report for 60 days from distribution. SCC believes this incentive will produce a better survey sampling.

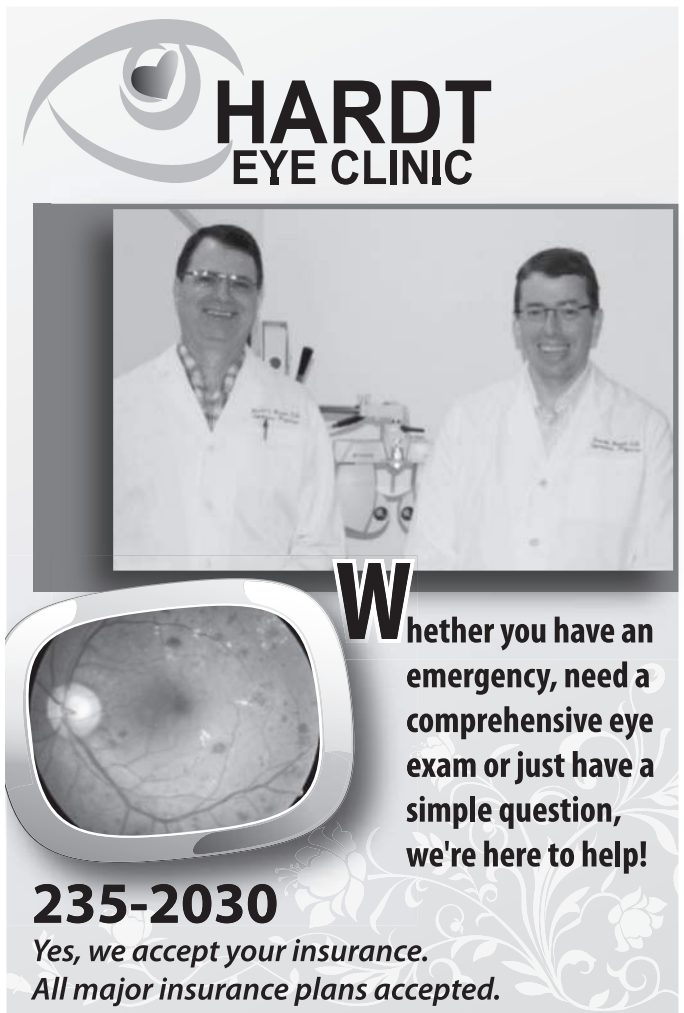
The Chamber has engaged the services of The Guam Employers Council to manage the project. The survey is intended to measure compensation and benefit patterns in the public and private sectors. Confidentiality in the project is paramount. The reports will be copyrighted for the benefit of those that participate in the survey.

For purposes of future employment under U.S. visa requirements, SCC is surveying the wages of workers similarly employed in the area of intended employment. By "similarly employed," SCC means having substantially comparable jobs in the occupational category in the area of intended employment. All participating company employees will be surveyed.

SCC president Douglas Brennan has been encouraged by the response from CNMI employers and employees at this undertaking, stating, "SCC expects to produce reports that will protect our local work force, as well as provide employers prevailing wage rates that truly reflect current conditions in the CNMI, not the mainland, Hawaii or Guam."

Brennan stressed the importance of getting the project completed as soon as possible. "Businesses cannot stay in business unless they have a chance to compete. This survey is a good shot right now at keeping costs reflective of our own circumstances. Not those of another economy," he said.

SCC reports a directory of those to be sent survey forms and instructions at well over 300. For those interested in participating and receiving copies of the report when completed, contact the Saipan Chamber of Commerce at 233-7150/7152 or at coordinator@saipanchamber.com. For Rota and Tinian, Phillip Mendiola-Long at the Tinian Chamber of Commerce will coordinate with SCC. ***(SCC)***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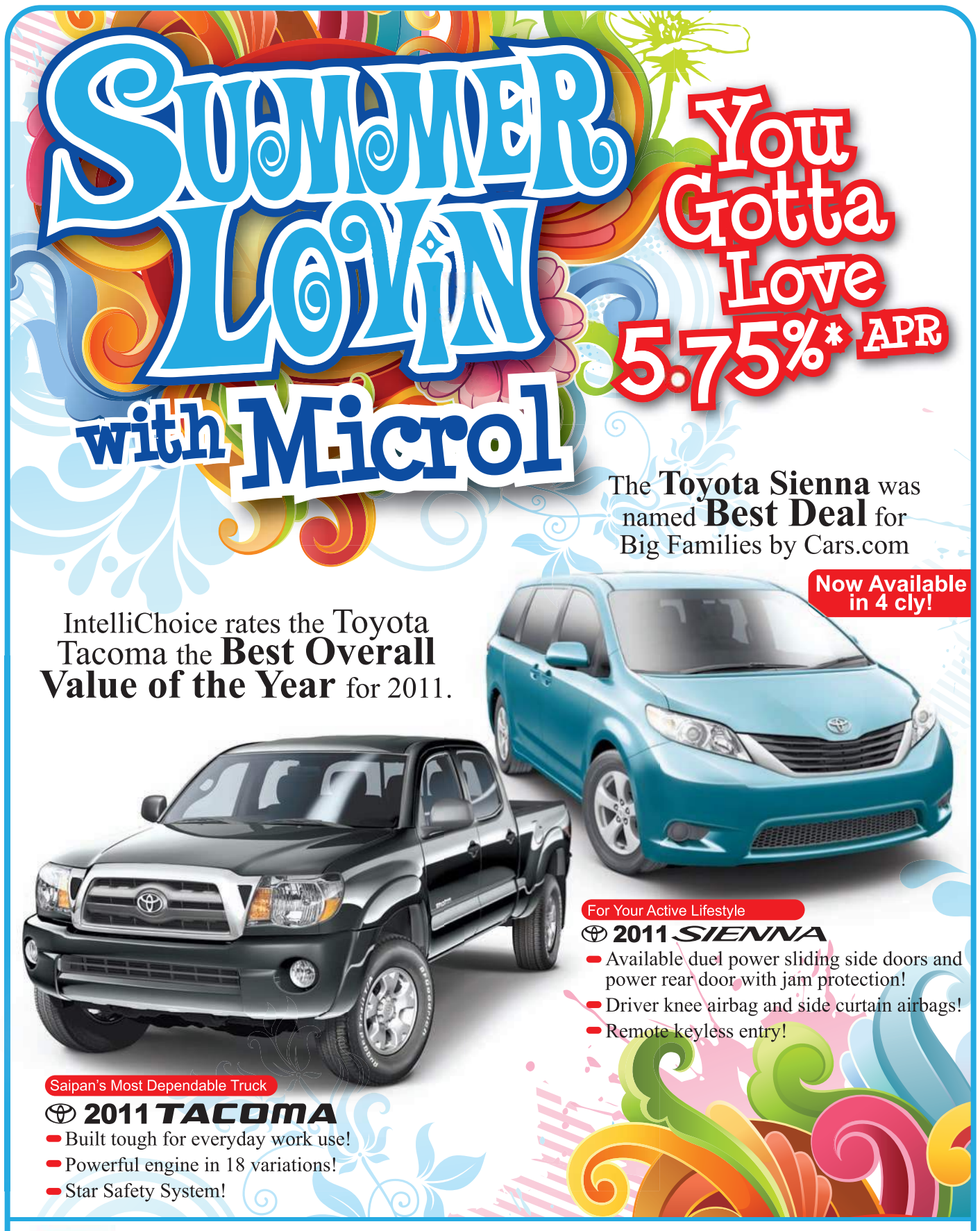
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PACIFIC BRIEFS

Marshalls Cabinet minister gets suspended sentence

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI/PIR)—A Marshall Islands cabinet minister has pleaded no contest to three charges related to allegations of theft and misconduct in office. Kenneth Kedi originally pleaded not guilty to ten charges ranging from grand larceny to misconduct in office, over allegations he was improperly reimbursed for office furniture and that he cashed a cheque made out to a local government.

RNZI correspondent Giff Johnson says the case was only over about $2,000. "In the agreement with the Attorney General's office, the AG's office dropped seven of the charges. He pleaded no contest to three. The judge has given him a 30-day suspended jail term, and ordered him to pay $1,000 fine." Kedi will continue as the minister for transportation and communications.

US seeks to work with China on Pacific initiatives

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI/PIR)—The United States is planning to cooperate with China on waste and energy issues facing Pacific Island countries. The United States Assistant Secretary of State Kurt Campbell toured the Pacific earlier this month and says he was struck by the poor coordination of aid by all donors. Campbell says the largest ever US delegation to the Pacific Islands Forum will bring ideas to the table at September's meeting [with Chinese officials.].

SAWADA

From Page 1

port system, the staff said.

The staff said that Sawada's mother and his girlfriend were at the hospital.

Sources from the Japanese media disclosed that Sawada reportedly had epilepsy and a chronic illness.

Sources said Sawada's family flew to Saipan on Saturday after learning about his suicide attempt.

The 45-year-old Sawada was rushed to the hospital on Thursday night after he allegedly tried to hang himself using a bed sheet.

Because of the incident, the musician failed to show up at his scheduled detention hearing on Friday morning at the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

The U.S. Attorney's Office had filed a complaint, charging Sawada with interfering with the performance of a flight attendant.

Sawada allegedly became unruly as the aircraft was descending in preparation for landing at the Saipan International Airport on Monday, July 11. He allegedly punched the plane's window, kicked the seat in front of him, and assaulted a flight attendant.

The FBI said Sawada was among the passengers aboard Delta Flight 298. He was in the business class cabin when he reportedly became angry with a female passenger and became violent. The report did not mention what aroused his anger and whether he and the passenger were related.

Sawada was primarily known for his work with the once popular but now disbanded heavy metal band X, where he played bass.

GAO

From Page 1

Customs and Immigration Service.

"[This is] far fewer than the 512 applications it had anticipated. However, DHS officials predicted a surge in applications for E-2 CNMI investor status prior to the expiration of CNMI government-issued foreign investor permits on Nov. 27, 2011," he said.

Gootnick quoted a senior USCIS official as saying that many Japanese and Korean investors apply for regular E-2 status at their local U.S. embassy rather than through USCIS.

The GAO official also said the future status of Filipino and Korean workers and their employers with regard to the Social Security payroll tax is unknown, following the elimination of CNMI immigration categories and the transition to federal immigration law by Nov. 28.

"Given the transition to federal immigration law—in particular, given the availability of H-2 work visas in the CNMI—it is uncertain whether Filipino and Korean workers who obtain CNMI-only work permits will be covered by Social Security. If these workers are deemed to be covered, they and their employers will be subject to Social Security payroll taxes. The IRS and SSA will need to consider CNRA's impact on Filipino and Korean workers with regard to Social Security coverage," he said.

Filipino and Korean workers who were admitted to the Commonwealth under CNMI immigration law are not currently covered by Social Security.

The CNMI Division of Revenue and Tax said that as of 2009, workers from Korea and the Philippines totaled 12,406 and represented 75 percent of foreign workers—or 44 percent of all workers—in the CNMI.

67 granted worker status, 48 deported

As of May 31, 2011, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials on Saipan had identified 1,654 individuals in potential violation of U.S. immigration laws. Gootnick said.

He added that ICE initiated removal proceedings for 236 of these cases, resulting in decisions being rendered for 133 removal cases, 48 of which resulted in deportation.

Gootnick also said that as of June 1, 2011, USCIS had processed 1,033 CNMI applications for permanent residency and 96 CNMI applications for naturalization or citizenship.

In addition, USCIS had received 6,966 requests for advance parole, granting 97 percent of them, and had granted parole-in-place status to 2,625 individuals. Also, from October 2010 to June 2011, USCIS granted nonimmigrant H-visas and other categories of worker status classification for 67 individuals.

Gootnick said the Department of Homeland Security has yet to finalize rules for the CNMI-only transitional work permit program.

"Limited time remains for the submission and processing of approximately 15,000 workers' and their dependents' applications for these permits. These issues, as well as the unknown future status of Filipino and Korean workers' coverage by U.S. Social Security, could impact the CNMI's economy as the Nov. 27 deadline approaches," he said.

GARRISON

From Page 1

fidavit were submitted to the EEOC Honolulu Office on Friday, alleging constructive discharge, harassment, retaliation, and discipline and discharge.

Garrison resigned from his job citing irreconcilable differences with the PSS leadership. He tendered his resignation effective Sept. 1, 2011. Last week, however, Sablan placed him on administrative leave until the end of his contract in September. Garrison now believes that this was in retaliation for the statements he made to the media about the reasons for his resignation.

In his complaint, Garrison claimed that Sablan had repeatedly displayed in the last few weeks conduct that violates the tenets of employer-employee relationships.

He said that Sablan's conduct falls under the prohibited practices of the employer under headings such as constructive discharge—forcing an employee to resign by making the work environment so intolerable that a reasonable person would not be able to stay.

Sablan also allegedly harassed Garrison with "her notably offensive conduct including, but not limited to, offensive jokes, slurs, epithets or name calling, physical assaults or threats, intimidation, ridicule or mockery and interference with work performance."

"This harassment becomes unlawful where the conduct is severe or pervasive enough to create a work environment that a reasonable person would consider intimidating, hostile, abusive which I do as there have been numerous instances where the supervisor conduct has been not only unfair but repeated instances where she physically assaulted me by hitting, slapping and touching me inappropriately," said Garrison.

The MHS principal has been in the limelight since April, when he became the subject of a four-day protest in April by a group of MHS teachers led by James Yangetmai. The House Education Committee later held a public hearing on this matter but Sablan barred Garrison from testifying, which Garrison now says was discriminatory. He pointed out that Yangetmai and the other teachers were never issued the same order not to speak at the hearing. This conduct, he said, is a clear violation under the EEOC's discipline and discharge policy.

Garrison also believes that the administrative leave order issued against him is "a clear retaliation of the commissioner and thus a violation of the policy on retaliation."

"I found it strikingly discriminatory that I would make a simple statement in the news on July 12 and then on July 13 be placed on admin leave which is largely viewed as a disciplinary measure, and the 'local teacher' [alluding to Yangetmai] of a different race who also made statements about her in fact was not disciplined and was even allowed to continue to verbally, and in writing, abuse me and her for that matter, for weeks following without any recourse," added Garrison's complaint.

HR1466

From Page 1

the Northern Mariana Islands—including legislators—about H.R. 1466 and about the many other issues before Congress. I try to seek out the opinions of as many people in the Northern Mariana Islands as I can, whatever the issue. And I would be glad to talk with anyone about this bill. I think I can show them why it's the right thing to do, because it helps keep families together," he said.

House Speaker Eli D. Cabrera (Rep-Saipan) last Friday criticized Sablan for not consulting with the local legislature on H.R. 1466.

"Kilili is elected by the Commonwealth and so are we [Legislature] by our constituents in our precincts. Whatever you are doing there, at least let us know because we voted for you. You get your salary from the federal government, fine. But we elected you to go there so whatever you do, let us know," he said in an interview with the *Saipan Tribune*.

Cabrera also doubted the veracity of the 4,000 to 5,000 guest workers that Sablan would benefit from his bill.

"Were did Kilili get that actual information. The census is not out yet. How can we be sure that this is it?" said the speaker, adding that he doubts Congress will make an exception for nonresident workers in the CNMI when there are over 20 million illegal aliens in the U.S. mainland.

Rep. Joseph M. Palacios (Rep-Saipan), for his part, said that Sablan's H.R. 1466 is a good law and some members of the Legislature support it.

"But you have to keep in mind that we have a lot of local folks who are jobless because of the guest workers who are taking over these jobs. As local elected leaders we still have to balance things out. We're not saying that that we don't appreciate [nonresident workers], believe me we do. We have workers in the past that worked for my dad and we really appreciate them. But we also have to keep in mind that we have local folks…food stamp is on the rise because we have no jobs available for them," said Palacios.

"I'm not saying I'm not supporting it but I would say that a portion of the bill is questionable. But again it is not for me to determine [what will happen to H.R. 1466], it's going to be up to Congress," he added.

Misunderstood

Sablan, a two-term CNMI delegate to Congress, said that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial probably misunderstood the intent of H.R. 1455 and what it intends to accomplish. He did, however, clarified that he and Fitial have no misunderstanding.

"He opposes the bill and I am for it because it keeps families together. The governor does misunderstand the bill. He thinks it is [an] amnesty. It's not. He thinks it covers illegals. It doesn't. I think it was clear at the hearing that no one shared the governor's views," said Sablan.

What's next after Friday's hearing? Sablan said he would continue to meet with other members of Congress to educate them about the legislation and to gather additional support for the bill.

If H.R. 1466 hurdles the House, he said there's no telling how it will fare in the Senate.

"We have been meeting with members of the Senate as well as the House to discuss the importance of H.R. 1466 to the affected individuals and to the Northern Mariana Islands. Senate staff helped to draft the bill. But most members of the House of Representatives will tell you that there is no way to predict what our friends in the Senate will do."

Extend deadline

Senate President Paul A. Manglona (Rep-Rota), meanwhile, wants Congress to amend Public Law 110-229 to extend the employment authorization grandfather provision from two years after the transition program's effective date of 2009 to three years after the effective date.

"This will give employers and employees more time to adjust to the new regulations that will become effective on Nov. 28, 2011," said the Rota lawmaker in his written testimony to the subcommittee.

Manglona said that extending the employment authorization grandfather provision would allow existing nonresident workers to continue working in the CNMI under umbrella permit conditions for one more year or until Nov. 28, 2012.

Manglona also took jabs at the CNRA, saying that the law, along other things, created a freeze on new investments due to the uncertainty of foreign investors' status under the law.

"This has led to a stifling of economic growth and reduced government revenues by the millions. The CNRA [also] resulted in the displacement of over 70 CNMI immigration employees and further caused the CNMI government to lose approximately $5 million in revenue collected each year from nonresident worker fees beginning fiscal year 2010," he said.

Thrown under the bus

Human rights advocate and former Rota public school teacher Wendy Doromal attended the public hearing and said she was appalled that no one discussed or even asked about what will happen to nonresident workers excluded from Sablan's H.R. 1466.

"It was chilling that no one who spoke at the hearing even mentioned the plight of the 12,000 legal, nonresident workers who are excluded from this bill because they have no U.S. citizen family member. They too have families that will be torn apart; they too are faced with adversity," she said.

Doromal said it was her impression that this particular group of alien workers was thrown completely under the bus by members of the subcommittee.

"It must be because the CNMI government and these members of the U.S. Congress regard them primarily as labor units rather than as people. It is extremely upsetting that a member of Congress can argue passionately about keeping families together, but only certain families—those with a U.S. citizen spouse or child," she said.

On Saipan, United Workers Movement-NMI president Rabby Syed said more than 50 people attended their monitoring of the proceedings starting 12am beside the Department of Homeland Security office at the TSL Plaza.

Although the live streaming over the Internet wasn't "really smooth," he said they still managed to follow the public hearing.

Syed said they appreciate what Sablan's H.R. 1466 will do for some nonresident workers. However, he said their group does not support it because a far too significant number of alien workers will not benefit from it.

He said his group wants Congress to instead consider recommendations made by the Department of the Interior, which provides green cards and a pathway to U.S. citizenship for long-term nonresident workers in the CNMI.

Investigators want deeper probe on man with birthmark

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The FBI and the Department of Public Safety investigators remain interested in the man with the distinctive birthmark on his right cheek in connection with their investigation into the mysterious disappearance of sisters Faloma and Maleina Luhk.

DPS Commissioner Ramon Mafnas said Friday that they have interviewed several people with birthmarks on their faces, but none of them was identified by an As Teo resident as the same person seen near the entrance to the Santa Lourdes Shrine a few weeks before the girls' disappearance.

"We are very much interested in that particular report because of the fact that there was a claim that the individual was asking for a certain person," Mafnas said.

When asked whether that person is related to the Luhk sisters, the commissioner replied, "I believe so."

FBI special agent Tom Simon, in a June 15 briefing, had emphasized that the person is not a suspect or a person of interest in the investigation, but may help on a potential lead in the girls' disappearance.

Simon said the man, described as about 30 years old and with short clean cut hair, was seen in the area on May 6 at 10:30pm aboard a white four-door car with some body damage on the front passenger side.

Ten-year-old Faloma and 9-year-old Maleina were reportedly last seen near a bus stop pavilion in As Teo on May 25. Santa Lourdes Shrine is a stone's throw from the bus stop pavilion.

Simon said one of the neighbors had walked up to the car and talked to the driver, who said he was looking for someone and eventually drove off.

In a media briefing on Friday, Mafnas said they are still looking into that particular report and this was one of the subjects in his recent discussions with Simon.

Mafnas said they want to go back to that report just to ensure that they don't miss anything.

He said those that they identified as having birthmarks on their faces have been interviewed.

"I don't blame some of them taking offense. But in the name of justice and if the community wants to help us, then this is part of their duty as citizens. Regardless of what we feel we just need to ensure that we are doing everything correctly and respecting due process," Mafnas said.

He said the neighbor who claimed to have seen the man with the birthmark passed the lie detector test.

"The report from the FBI on that polygraph examination shows that he was telling the truth," he said.

Mafnas said they don't want to change the neighbor's statement, but that they want to go back and ask more questions.

He said they don't want to overreact to that man with the birthmark because it may cause them to be distracted from significant evidence or incident.

"So we need to strike a balance in maintaining our composure in performing this kind of process," he said. "I don't even know that particular incident is associated with the activity or crime. We don't know that."

Mafnas said he has been hearing inconsistencies about the man with the birthmark so they discussed that with the FBI.

He said some persons may be providing misleading information or trying to point fingers.

"We have so many people who are pointing fingers. He did it, she did it. The law does not work that way. We need to follow the process," Mafnas said.

Rookie cop arrested for domestic violence

A rookie police officer was arrested Saturday night for allegedly beating up his wife in front of their house in Dandan.

Sources at the Department of Public Safety said that Police Officer 1 Gordon O. Seman was arrested for assault and battery and disturbing the peace.

Seman is expected to be taken to the Superior Court today, Monday, for a bail hearing.

Sources said that Seman allegedly punched his wife in the mouth and kicked her in the thigh. She allegedly sustained injuries on the mouth and thigh.

The officer ran away but responding police officers later arrested him near the Jin Store in Dandan.

It was not clear whether alcohol was a factor in the incident. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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Noncritical employees to be paid Wednesday

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The cash-strapped CNMI government again failed to make payroll last Friday, at least the 17th time since June 2010 that the Department of Finance failed to issue paychecks to "non-critical" employees.

In an email to the *Saipan Tribune*, press secretary Angel Demapan confirmed that while noncritical civil servants didn't get paid, federal and critical staff were able to get their paychecks on time.

"Noncritical services personnel payroll is anticipated to be paid on Wednesday. However, should sufficient funds become available before Wednesday, then payroll will be issued accordingly," he said.

Demapan said the reasons for the delay in payment of noncritical government employees continue to be the same: limited cash availability in government bank accounts, weekly payments to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. of $250,000 for arrears that is close to $1 million a month, and payments for the Commonwealth Health Center's critical needs, among others.

Exacerbating the already sad state of the government's financial affairs, Demapan said, is that July has three pay periods.

He added that the next payday—July 29—is expected be the most challenging one for the central government.

"As the government continues to tackle current fiscal challenges, government employees are encouraged to anticipate that only critical and federal will be paid on time while noncritical [employees will get paid] on the Wednesday after. Nonetheless, whenever we have additional collections and it is possible to pay earlier [or even on time], we will," said the press secretary.

To make matters worse, noncritical government employees still waiting for their July 15 paychecks are also subject to a 16-hour cut biweekly and unpaid holidays as part of the administration's cost cutting measures.

So-called critical government employees include doctors, nurses, police officers, firefighters, and corrections officers. Federal employees, meanwhile, get their salaries directly from U.S. grants and other federal sources and those earmarks cannot be reappropriated by the local government.

NMC projects deficit to hit $929K by September

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College projects to incur an estimated deficit of $929,000 by the end of the fiscal year on Sept. 30 due to the government's budget woes, according to chief financial and administrative officer Roger Madriaga on Thursday.

Of the total amount, about $847,000 is for personnel's salaries while $82,000 is the projected deficit for "all others," mostly for utility payments.

Madriaga recommended that the Board of Regents approve a supplemental budget from tuition revenue to cover the anticipated shortfall.

The board did not immediately decide on the matter during Thursday's meeting.

In his report to the board, Madriaga said that the college generated a total of $4.227 million from this year's tuition and fees. For fiscal year 2012, he projects revenue from students' tuition and other fees to reach only $2.8 million, due to an expected decline in enrollment numbers.

Regent Andrew Orsini expressed hesitation about approving a supplemental budget and asked Madriaga to look into possibly increasing the fees paid by students.

Enrollment specialists at the college earlier disclosed that many students have asked for the release of their transcript to off-island universities and colleges—a sign that these students will not be enrolling at NMC next semester.

Meantime, NMC Faculty Senate president John Griffin said he expects a shortage of instructional faculty when the new semester opens in August. Because of a planned 10-percent salary cut effective this month, he said many instructors may decide not to stay.

He said the college currently has 34 instructional faculty and 49 non-instructional faculty members. He expects the figure to decline in August to just 30 instructional members and 40 non-instructional members. He said the college also anticipates having 40 adjuncts instructors—part-time teachers—in the new semester.

Based on his initial assessment, Griffin said the college will be short of 13 full time instructors when classes start.

In his report to the board, Griffin pointed out that NMC faculty has long been lobbying for long-term contracts. He said the existing two-year nonrenewable contract may probably be why the college can't get good quality instructors, especially from off-island.

He appealed to the board to implement a promotion policy and salary adjustment for personnel. The college last increased the salaries of faculty in 1994.

Griffin claimed that NMC keeps hiring other personnel but limit hires for faculty where additional people are more needed.

NMC president Sharon Hart assured the board that she will sit down and listen to the Faculty Senate members once they come back from summer to see what the management can do to address their concerns.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday greetings go out to our mom, Elisa S. Muña, who is celebrating her special day today, July 18! May your days be filled with love and joy. Wishing you the best and many more to come. We love you always! Love always, your children and your grandchildren.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Prosecutor: Sick detainee getting adequate treatment

Wei Lin, a federal detainee who claimed that his pleas for medical help due to severe abdominal pain have fallen on deaf ears, is actually receiving adequate medical treatment since the time he was arrested in April, according to a prosecutor.

Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto said the U.S. government has in its possession certain records—delivery requests, sick call request forms, vital signs assessments, a physician consultation form and an assessment form—to prove that Lin's condition has not been ignored.

An examination of the records, which date from April through June this year, will show that Lin's complaints have been addressed by medical personnel, said Benedetto.

Lin, a Chinese national, is charged with two counts of document fraud and a count of false statements to a federal agent for allegedly obtaining a driver's license fraudulently.

Joseph James Norita Camacho, counsel for Lin, on Tuesday notified the U.S. District Court for the NMI that he has made repeated verbal, written, and email requests to the U.S. Attorney's Office to have his client receive medical assistance.

"To date, Lin has yet to receive any medical assistance to determine what is causing the severe abdominal pain and the bloody discharges," Camacho said.

Benedetto said the government will make U.S. Marshal Don Hall available to answer questions about the procedures for obtaining medical care for inmates and detainees.

Benedetto asked that the information it has received concerning Lin's medical treatment be discussed in a sealed hearing.

In addition, Benedetto said, Lin executed a medical records release form when he was taken into custody that allows the U.S. Marshals Service access and review of his medical records for, among other purposes, "providing me with appropriate medical care."

At a hearing last Thursday, U.S. District Court for the NMI judge William Q. Hayes discussed the motion with Benedetto and Camacho at sidebar. Hayes ordered that sidebar discussions remain sealed due to Lin's medical issues. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST
PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a MPLT Trustees Regular Meeting to be held on Friday, July 22, 2011 beginning at 9:00am at MPLT Conference Room, 1313 Anatahan Drive, Capital Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

The following agenda is hereby established:

I PRELIMINARIES
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes June 17, 2011

II ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

III CONSULTANT'S REPORTS
1. Investment Consultant Report
2. Loan Administrator
3. Legal Counsel Report
4. Board Consultant Report

IV OLD BUSINESS
1. Investment Policy Statement - ETI
2. CNMI Scholarship
3. 2010 Annual Report - draft

V COMMUNICATIONS
- APAFS – invitation

VI NEW BUSINESS
- Air Cargo Services

VII MISCELLANEOUS
- Personnel Matter

VIII ADJOURNMENT

At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ Alvaro A. Santos
Chairman, MPLT Trustees

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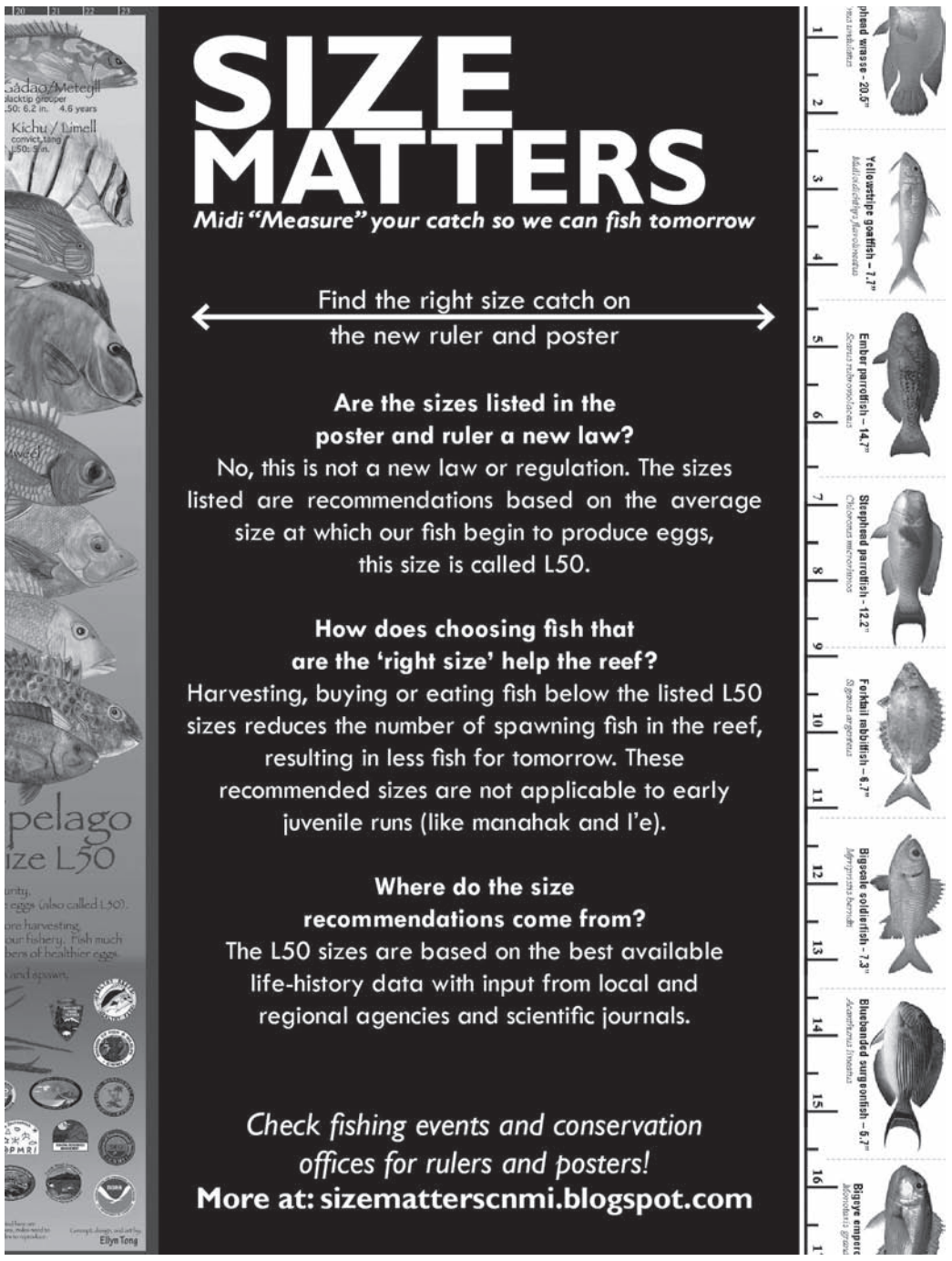
SIZE MATTERS
Midi "Measure" your catch so we can fish tomorrow
Find the right size catch on the new ruler and poster
Are the sizes listed in the poster and ruler a new law?
No, this is not a new law or regulation. The sizes listed are recommendations based on the average size at which our fish begin to produce eggs, this size is called L50.
How does choosing fish that are the 'right size' help the reef?
Harvesting, buying or eating fish below the listed L50 sizes reduces the number of spawning fish in the reef, resulting in less fish for tomorrow. These recommended sizes are not applicable to early juvenile runs (like manahak and l'e).
Where do the size recommendations come from?
The L50 sizes are based on the best available life-history data with input from local and regional agencies and scientific journals.
Check fishing events and conservation offices for rulers and posters!
More at: sizematterscnmi.blogspot.com

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PSS updates its system for evaluating performance

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

All teachers and administrators of the Public School System will be evaluated using a new performance evaluation system come school year 2011-2012.

The proposed regulation governing this revised evaluation system was approved by the Board of Education and is now published in the *Commonwealth Register*.

The performance evaluation shall be conducted on a yearly basis on the teacher's and administrator's anniversary date. Administrators are principals and vice principals.

According to PSS, the principal or designee will conduct the evaluation process in which the teacher will participate through the use of self-study assessment, reflection, presentation of artifacts, and classroom demonstration.

For school administrators, the performance evaluation will be conducted by the education commissioner.

The evaluation process for both categories has seven components, including training, orientation, self-assessment, pre-observation conference, observations, post-observation conference, and summary evaluation conference.

At the end of the evaluation process, the principal or the commissioner must give a rating for each element in rubrics, make a written comment, and overall rating on each standard in the rubric.

The teacher or administrator must also be given an opportunity to comment before any recommendation for contract renewal is submitted.

Teachers and administrators who are rated "proficient" will develop an individual growth plan designed to improve performance, with the goal of achieving a "distinguished" rating on all standards. They shall be placed on a monitored growth plan if they are rated "developing" on one or more standards and but will not be recommended for dismissal or non-renewal. PSS will give the teacher and administrator one school year to achieve proficiency.

Those who will be rated "not demonstrated" of any standard shall be placed on a directed growth plan but will not be recommended for dismissal or non-renewal. They also have a year to become proficient.

PSS has 565 classroom teachers and employs about 40 school administrators in its 20 campuses on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian.

Flashback
A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 18, 2000

PDO lobbies for more federal funding
In a move to improve the quality of criminal defense for the poor, Chief Public Defender Masood Karimipour has asked U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno for more federal grants for the CNMI to help indigent clients. Mr. Karimipour met with Ms. Reno during a recent trip to Washington D.C. where he attended a National Symposium on Indigent Defense sponsored by the federal government. The meeting, attended by public defenders, judges and policy makers from all 50 states, was designed to attract leaders in the indigent defense area and other decision makers in the criminal justice systems who are committed to improving the system for the poor.

DPS scrambling for funds to meet court order
Faced with dwindling funds for its operation, the Department of Public Safety has started identifying areas where it can further carry out cuts to meet the Superior Court's deadline for the renovation of the Division of Corrections for mentally-ill inmates and detainees. DPS Commissioner Charles W. Ingram, however, said he could not further reduce the budget for operations just to accommodate the expenses for the improvement of the prison. "We cannot touch the money for operations because we have to make sure that the patrol cars are running 24 hours a day," he said.

July 18, 2001

Principals told: Keep students' grades private
It came as a surprise to some public school principals that few of the practices they have employed in handling students' grades or records are actually against federal laws governing students' privacy rights. After being briefed on the confidentiality of students' school records during an Administrator's Summer Institute session this week, principals admitted they would have to revisit the policies and update their staff on the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Swift action on higher PSS budget sought
Put your money where your mouth is. This, in effect, was Rep. Tom Pangelinan's message to Commonwealth senators whom he dared anew to act swiftly on the legislative initiative that aims to increase by 10 percent the Public School System's annual budget allotment. Pangelinan, proponent of House Legislative Initiative 12-001, pointed out in a statement that the upper chamber has a mere 18 days left to pass the measure before the deadline to place initiatives on the ballot lapses on August 5. "All I am asking is for the Senate to take a vote, one way or the other, and then let the people decide this November if our public schools deserve more funds so that we can have kindergarten and open the new high schools in Kagman and Koblerville and the new elementary school in Rota," he said.

July 18, 2002

DEQ cites CUC for wastewater overflow
Wastewater overflowing from a Commonwealth Utility Corp. manhole near the old Tanapag Social Hall has flowed into nearby beach waters, prompting the Division of Environmental Quality to cite the utility firm for violating environmental regulations. But in a response sent to DEQ by CUC executive director Bernard P. Villagomez, he said the utility company has taken corrective action and immediately remedied the overflow situation by removing the leaking sewage. "The T-1 pump station overflow occurred as a result of renovation work being performed on the pump station. The contractor miscalculated the time it would take to seal a cut in the discharge piping made to install a bypass fitting, and this resulted in the overflow you described," Villagomez told DEQ's acting director Antonio I. DeLeon Guerrero.

PSS will join info drive for new education law
The Public School System will be participating in a nationwide conference call tackling the implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, which President Bush signed into law last January 2002. The teleconference is being slated for State Education Agency public information officers, chief state school officers, deputies, governors' press secretaries and education advisors. Robert H. Myers, the PSS public information officer, has been designated to take part in this hour-and-a-half activity. "Aside from improving my skills as a PIO, I can also be part of efforts to communicate about the No Child Left Behind Act to the Commonwealth," said Myers.

NMC seeks $1.5 grant to boost enrollment numbers

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College has submitted a grant application to avail of the $1.5 million College Access Challenge Grant Program funds provided by the U.S. Department of Education.

In her report to the Board of Regents on Thursday, NMC president Sharon Hart said that documents were submitted to the federal agency on July 13 as part of a renewal grant application.

She said that NMC has already identified the required matching funds for the grant.

The funding, if approved, will be administered by the Division of Student Services and will be used to promote higher education, increase college enrollment and success among low-income Pacific Island students in the Commonwealth.

Hart earlier disclosed that the college expects the fall enrollment numbers to go down after many current and ongoing students asked for the release of their transcript to off-island colleges and universities.

Also, Hart disclosed that the college is awaiting word from the U.S. Education Department on the status of its grant application for the Educational Talent Search Program, or TRIO. This, she said, is a continuation of its grant for the next five years. The five-year award period is between Sept. 1, 2011 and Aug. 31, 2016.

Hart said the program currently operates on about $306,000 per year with six staffers spread out between three islands.

As of July 13, 2011, Hart said, the Pacific Islands Chapter of WESTOP report that Palau Community College and the University of Guam have confirmed receipt of funding for the region.

Thursday's board meeting was Hart's first. She officially assumed office on July 5.

In her first report to the regents, she highlighted the "impressive" show of support demonstrated by employees and staff for the new leadership and their commitment to work with the management.

She also commended former interim president Lorraine Cabrera for leading the institution for more than a year since January 2010.

In her first week, she also met with Interior Secretary Tony Babauta and participated in a meeting with the CNMI Energy Task Force on Wednesday. She vowed to provide a monthly report to the regents to keep them abreast of issues surrounding the college and plans to provide a quarterly update to the Legislature.

One Economy, Commerce to hold July broadband townhall meetings

One Economy, CNMI Department of Commerce, BroadMap LLC, and the New America Foundation will be conducting its final series of town hall meetings to understand residents' attitudes toward broadband.

The program is part of an initiative of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to develop and maintain a comprehensive, interactive, and searchable nationwide map of existing broadband capability and availability throughout each state or territory.

In addition, One Economy aims to improve broadband adoption in CNMI by better understanding the barriers to adopting broadband that residents may face.

The village/townhall meetings in July are scheduled on the following dates:

- Tuesday, July 19, 2011, 6pm at the Koblerville Elementary School cafeteria
- Monday, July 25, 2011, 6pm at the San Antonio Elementary School cafeteria
- Tuesday, July 26, 2011, 6pm at the Garapan Elementary School cafeteria

The public's attendance and participation in this community engagement will help map Internet access, usage and attitudes. Refreshments will be served. ***(PR)***

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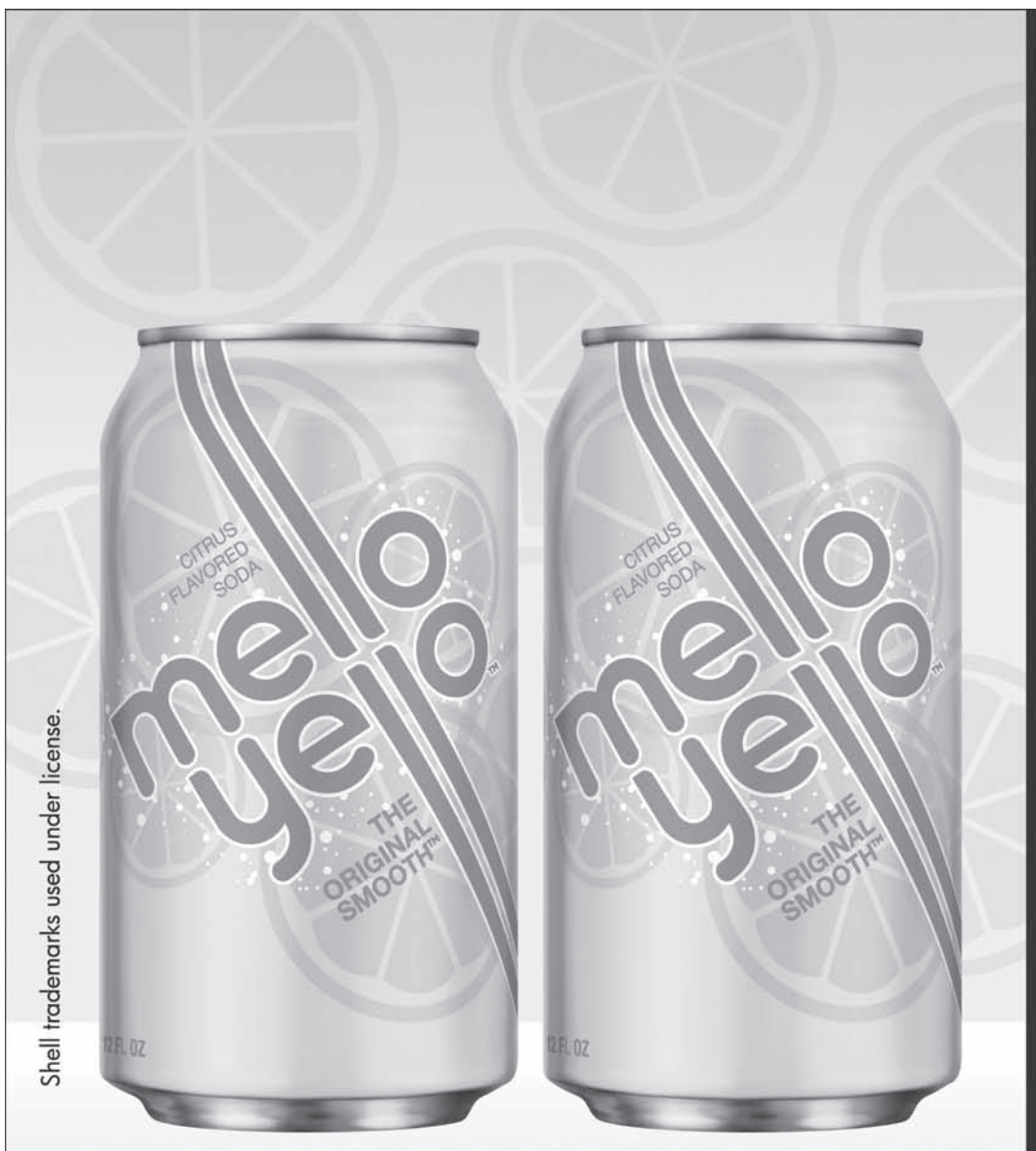

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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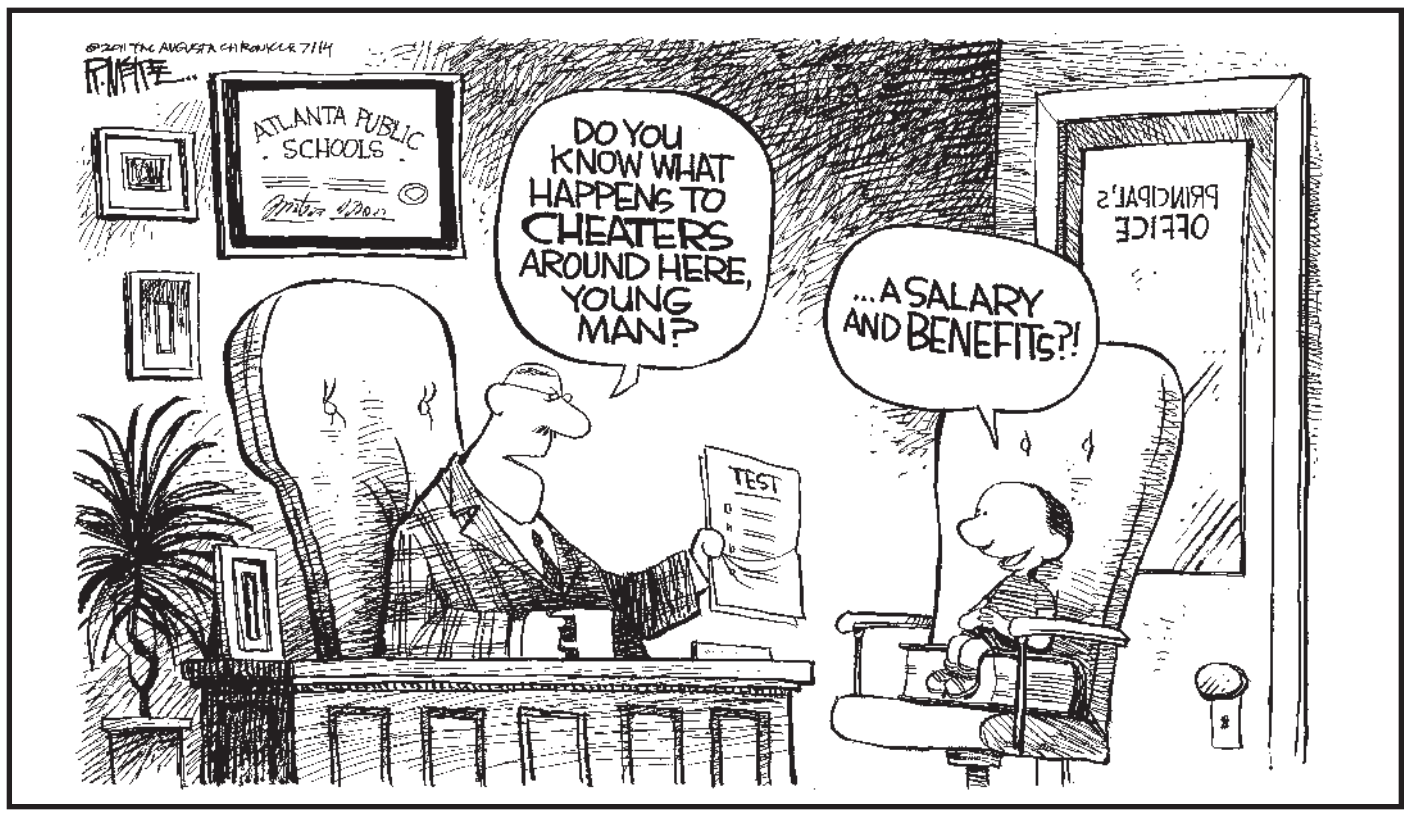

ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO CHEATERS AROUND HERE, YOUNG MAN?
TEST
...A SALARY AND BENEFITS?!
PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

The hardest part

By BART CHILTON
COMMODITY FUTURES TRADE COMMISSION

Besides Independence Day, July marked another anniversary: one year since Congress passed the most sweeping financial regulatory reforms in history (the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act). The law is a path forward to address the issues that got us into the economic mess we're still in.

Contributing to the economic fiasco were lax regulation and the captains of finance. With regulators asleep at the wheel, Wall Street devised all kinds of financial gimmicks. Unregulated trading venues became casinos where bundles of exotic mortgages were bet upon in the form of credit default swaps. They pushed us toward the economic cliff and the eventual downfall of financial behemoths thought of as "too big to fail." As we know, it's not over. Unemployment and housing markets tell us that.

We've waited a year. The question is: "Where's the beef?" Regulators were to fashion implementation rules (the meat on the bones) within one year. That hasn't happened. Hundreds of rules across numerous agencies languish.

Why have we had to wait? Two reasons: In Washington there is an old saying: "If you aren't part of the solution, there's plenty of money to be made being part of the problem." That's at work now. Never in history has there been more money spent lobbying by the financial sector. In fact, there are more than 10 financial lobbyists for each member of Congress.

Remember Church Lady saying "Isn't that special?" Well, there have been countless lobbyist efforts to seek "special" exemptions from the law.

Still, regulators do want to hear folks out, to ensure that we don't mess something up that is working well. Unfortunately, that takes time. So, a second reason for delays is the sheer number of rulemakings. This is about getting rules right rather than done fast.

There are, however, some matters that deserve expedited approval. A Commodity Futures Trading Commission rule to limit the influence of speculators in markets was to be completed in January. It would establish a cap on the percentage a speculative trader may hold in a market. The rule is in limbo. That matters because the prices consumers pay for everything from milk to gas are impacted by these markets.

Studies confirm that when drivers fill up the cars, they pay a premium — a Wall Street speculative premium. With no limits rule, consumers and businesses are harmed.

Tom Petty sang, "The waiting is the hardest part." After the economic pain we went through, it's hard not to let the waiting get to you. Yes, regulators need to implement the law correctly, but they should also put the pedal down so that consumers, markets and our economy don't have to wait much longer for these needed reforms.

Bart Chilton is a commissioner on the Commodity Futures Trade Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20581.

Two parables to guide us

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is a former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

I recently saw a magnificent painting called *The Sower.* The painter, Harold Copping, was inspired from a passage in the Book of Matthew: "A man sowed his seed. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the good soil and produced a crop, some a hundredfold." As the sower continued to spread his seeds, some fell on the wayside and were trampled on. Some of it fell on barren ground and the birds ate it. But the sower persisted until his labor produced a bountiful harvest. The parable of the Sower symbolizes our industry and productivity and our ability to bring forth that which is best within us.

As I stood admiring this painting of the Sower, my mind reflected on the sowing that we do in our daily life. I questioned what type of sowing are we doing that will benefit our families, our community and ourselves? Will the sowing profit us, our family, and our community? Do we sow seeds only to produce children and then neglect them? What sowing do we do to improve our family and community? Are we planting mental seeds to expand our store of knowledge? What seeds do we sow at work? When the harvest comes, will it be a hundredfold as the sower's in the parable or will our seeds have fallen by the wayside and trampled on? So it is: as we sow, so shall we reap!

We cannot deny that what we sow is what the community reaps. You and I control the environment and the political arena around us by our attitudes and actions. We complain about the injustice, the social problems, the economic recession, and the myriad other problems we face daily. But are we sowing any better seeds to reap a better harvest?

When are going to stop believing that better times will come from someone else's actions or concern for our welfare? Nonsense! Life doesn't work that way and you know it! Change comes from our taking the initiative and demanding change. But change only comes after you and I take the initiative and demand it. Change comes only after you and I refuse to tolerate abuses. Change only takes one person to seriously question the abuses and to stand up and rally us demanding that we implement the solutions that lie before us.

Are we lacking the determination and strong will to make the changes happen? Until you and I demand and do as the sower did our seeds will fall on the wayside and be trampled on and never grow. It doesn't have to be that way.

All problems have solutions but too often we are not willing to pay the price to solve the problems. All solutions to problems have a price that can consist of a combination of emotions, ethics, truthfulness, honesty, money, community-first feeling, and sacrifice. Meanwhile our seeds get trampled on or get eaten by the birds. When are we going to wake up? When are going to stop shivering and whining like lost children? We are fast losing all opportunities for improvement. Let's stop the madness! Remember the industrious sower sowed his seeds and reaped his harvest. What will our harvest be? Weeds?

Get a copy of July 11, 2011, *Time* magazine and read a most interesting article. The title is "Want to Make More Money than a Banker? Become a Farmer!" Honestly, the article proves that many farmers are making big money through farming. Population is growing, food costs are escalating, and as a result more food is needed. Seriously, it's the best job in the 21st century. Read the article. Farming is not a hobby but a serious business and industry. We in the CNMI have the land and the opportunity to create a great business as a supplier of food to Guam. Why can't we try to do it? An agriculture industry in the CNMI can be our saver if we become the sowers!

The following you have read before because I keep repeating the theme. It is the story of "Acres of Diamonds" which originated as a speech that Russell Conwell presented over 6,000 times around the world. It was first published in 1890. Mr. Conwell is also known as the founder and first president of Temple University, an Ivy League university in Philadelphia, Pa.

There once lived a Persian man named Ali Hafed. He had a lovely family and a prosperous farm. The farm contained orchards, grain fields, and a garden. Ali had money and seemed content. Than one day an ancient Buddhist priest passed through and met Ali. The priest explained about many things in far away places. He told Ali of stones that could be found in the earth that glistened like the sun. Ali immediately decided to go search for them. So eager was he to search for better things that Ali sold his prosperous farm for almost pennies and left his family.

One day while working in the field the man who had bought Ali's farm stumbled upon a shiny stone-like object. He picked it up and took it home as he had never seen anything so shiny. Several days later the same ancient Buddhist priest passed by the new owner's house and saw the shiny object. He asked the wife, "Is Ali home?"

"No, why do you ask?" The priest replied, "Because I see that you have a large diamond on your mantel piece!"

Upon returning home the farmer was startled to hear that he had discovered a diamond in his backyard. He quickly replied: "There are more—many more like this out there!" Soon the farmer became one of the wealthiest men in his part of the world. He had discovered acres of diamonds in his own backyard.

Had Ali Hafed remained at home and dug in his own cellar or underneath his own wheat fields or in his own garden instead of seeking and wandering aimlessly searching for wealth, he would have discovered the "acres of diamond" himself. Instead, he threw everything away and suffered wretchedness, starvation, and eventually died alone in a strange land. Had he stayed and cultivated his own backyard, he would have had "acres of diamonds."

The central idea of the speech is that one need not look elsewhere for opportunity, achievement or fortune—the resources to achieve all good things are present in one's own community. In other words: "Dig in our own backyard."

Consider me crazy when I tell you that we also have "acres of diamonds" waiting to be gathered right here under our feet. No, I don't mean the beautiful gems called diamonds. Saipan, Tinian, and Rota

See PARABLES on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Tuesday in Belgium

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

Americans on European tours used to say: "It is Tuesday so we must be in Belgium."

Saipan's heat slammed into my young Shenyang ward's comfort at the airport. His labored breathing is challenged by the warm humidity. The old aircon in our unit, retired by CUC's costs, has been revived into service! I sing: "Summertime, and the sweating is easy; fleas are jumping, and the MJ is high..."

The relatively clean air of the island is a welcome relief from the dense carbon in China's industrial *Dong Bei* (northeast) where coal reigns and its carbon canopy is a permanent fixture. In spite of advances in green technology, the coal firing plant tower across my building casts its shadow and exhausts its ash on my 11th floor's window.

The 15-hour trip from Dalian to Saipan via Incheon left muscles yearning for the comfort of a warm bath. Devoid of such amenities, a hot shower was fine, and that's when we knew we were definitely in Saipan. The water is salty, everything rusts.

We exhausted Saipan's aquifers a long time ago. We get downpours but rain catchment is not a promoted technology. Lake Susupe can be transformed into a reservoir if we clean up drained sewage along with the dumped plastics and metals, then plant mangroves on its wetland to resuscitate it back to health. Implementable community-based technology is there but neither the will nor the organized effort is present. Fanatic eco-warriors won't let us, either.

Friends not yet 50 suffer with smiles from inability to metabolize sugar and alcohol. In public, three on the P.O. queue makes a crowd rather than three thousand at Shenyangbei station. Motorists startle pedestrians and cyclists when they toot their horns. Overripe mangoes smell nice, the typhoon strong winds are familiar, and the amplified percussions on the pickup trucks test our musical sensibilities. A tenant who labors Saturdays past 2am hollers back at the cock to shut up when it starts to "cock-a-doodle" about the same time. My neighbor's bush cutter gets revved up at dawn on Sunday so he can hustle in clear conscience to the *pintakasi* with his favored fighting cock. I'm definitely home.

So then, why would anyone want to visit Saipan, let alone live in it? Lucidity that we are but a "strategic military location" to the Pentagon is a good start. The grunts and salts who R&R here come not for our historic landmarks, charming smiles, fruit and flower scents, spicy cuisine, nor good looks. Rest is a fleeting pleasure by increments of time with pounds of Sino-Russo human flesh. Expats admit that they left the urban rat race elsewhere so they can soak on CNMI's equanimity. Tourism does not excite them, preferring the virtues of remoteness and inaccessibility.

Casino proponents continue to spout PR. Macao *(Aomen)* of our acquaintance is a release valve profiting from Zhongguo's vulnerabilities. It is a crime-infested jewel. Singapore has a captive audience lured to gamble. Casinos market illusions. It is no coincidence Vegas is mesmerized by the Mirage!

Again, why are we here? It boils down to just having decided to do so. Period. "Just do it!" is how Nike puts it. Native residents I've encountered say that they do not leave nor return because of historical memory or pristine condition of geography, not even the presence of extended family. They leave or come back because they create their lives and make their living here. It is not handed to them. They live to live it!

Perhaps, if we stop thinking about living off visitors and investors, the Pentagon's dole, or cease heaping blame on Uncles Ben/Eloy's shortcomings, and shift our fears into enthusiastic creation on how we want to live our lives, we might actually do something about it. Survival and quality of existence are what's at stake. Real estate and calories are negotiable, labor is expendable, credit ratings rise and fall, but "happy" is self-generated. It is priceless. It is created. There lies our choice.

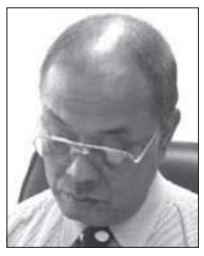
As a peripatetic pedagogue, PSS contained my passion but I developed spondylosis and I took matters into my own hands. We are eight quarters short of SS. Kinai Salas at SVES was kind enough to suggest that I look into medical leave and/or retirement. However, the Fund's liabilities were more than its assets; we exercised patience of a saint just withdrawing retirement contribution! Adding burden to their incompetence would have been unconscionable.

We are HQT to the rafters. PSS HR is friendly and HQT short, but the principals make the call. I alerted MS-HS principals on all three islands of my availability but so far, there are no takers. One comic colleague observed: "You're almost at the top of the income chain, so why would we want you back when we can hire two entry levels at your rate?" Fair enough. China beckoned our vocational resolve.

An African student has difficulties about his career choice. "What do you see are three contradictions of our time," I asked. He told me. I said, "If your life is not about addressing those three, then you haven't got a career!"

I am now home on Saipan so it must be July. How long Saipan remains home simply awaits my own nod or nay. Welcome to realistic living!

Fondu para planun Marianas



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

Mauleg na ayudun fondu nina'en Depattamenton Interior pot para u matutuhon planon ekonomia guine. Enfin, ha oppe i hagas ta kuestiotiona hafa na taya' planu 'nai siña ta bisita hafa masusede yan amanu 'nai manlotgun hit.

Lau hagas ta lilikue' i sasyanta ta aliligau i yabe lau hagas ha' i yabe gi sagaña. De dios!

Debi ta fan satton gi mafotman ennau na planu kosake siña ta pega papa' hafa siha para u fan machogue, ñgaian i haanen para umakomple yan hafa otru siha presisu na u fan malimienda na areglo gi kare mona.

Este na planu, planuta. Pues mauleg ta tatiye fitme kosake siña i akague na kanaita ha tuñgu hafa i agapa' na kanai. Maila ta tatiye satton.

■■■

Guaha lokue ninae'n Interior fondu para umatutuhon maguadog lugat siha guine 'nai malofan i maipe na achu siha gi papa' tanu. Este na mapta' achu ha tutuhongue ginen hilu isla papa' esta iya Guam.

I minaipen achu yan hanum gi sanpapa' libianu ma-usa para una' kilulog i yinerata elektrisida. Yangin felis, pues siempre tana' para uson guaguan na laña ya u tunog papa' megai i kuentan utilidat guine.

Hu lie' este na sistema giya Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) 'nai i fuetsan minaipen papa' tanu mafabrika usuña ya mana' hanau halom gi yenereta' (generator). Este muna' kalamten i yenereta' yan kandet enteru kampon eskuela ya siudan Klamath Falls.

■■■

Areglon pantie, biskileta yan tax

Pantie' famalaoan, bisikileta, marijuana, casino ya mafana'an chalan yan fasilidat i tagfe'na na chechu' i man-sabiun i Deni'. Madagau gi un' banda pot asuntun ekonomia buente pot mampos mapot i asuntu. Lau na ti manmanhula' este siha na sabiu para uma-adelanta i lina'la' publiku?

Esta sige mage kumahat i finatton otru sakan na eleksion. Siempre talie' hafa este siha na man-sabiu para umasañgan gi hilu esperansa na siña ma-insutta talu i intellihenten publiku. Dispensa un' ratu: Ti todu tiempu siña in' fababa i botadot. Siñaha' masge' un' biahe lau ti u dos ratu pagu na birada!

Gi todu lugat botasion (precincts) siña in' sañgane tautau hafa un' attikulu chechu' miyu para in' adelanta kualidat linala' niha na biahe? Guahu unu yahu limie' hafa bidan miyu sa' taya' trabiha malalagnos gi gaseta pot chechu' miyu sustansiau. Chechu' abarambau yan tai bali na areglu, huñgan!

■■■

Manyayas hit mangupot na ti ta lie' i industrian magagu 'nai ha tutuhon kumahat huyuñg yan trastesña gi puettun Tanapag. Ayu 'nai sige hit man-afaisen 'nai mediu karera esta i batku para iya China. Ni unu lokue' rumepara 'nai kumadidiñg i Japan Airlines, Nikko Hotel yan otru siha man-dañkulu na bisnis ya madiñgu Marianas. Ha chule' huyuñg keblen niha. Sipudera u mapega maseha dididi' para dagin tulaika. Ai na diskuidu ya megai pagu manmasasa'pet pot kohun fondu.

■■■

Umablañku finihu' si Gobietno Fitial yan Kilili gi menan komiten Congresson Estados Unidos de America pot asuntun ayudu para famaguon tautau hiyoñg ni manmafañagu guine sudadanon Amerikanu.

Si Kilili ayudon proteksion ha fama kumu propiu na aksion. Si Fitial ha apunta huyoñg na mampos megai i kuattro mit (4,000) na numeru ya siña tinilaika gotpe i disposision politika guine dispues.

Makat yan sentidu na asuntu ya dinancheña yangin masede hafa ginagagau gi lai US Immigration sa' mas antau i disposision siha pot sumudadanon America. Kanaha' todu membron komite tumatiye si Kilili gi aktu ni ha lagnos.

■■■

Ha faisenyu i amiguhu Magoo hafa kumeke ilegña "uchan maadde". Hu esplika na guiya ennau i chata'an haane 'nai mampos dispasiu i pinedoñg uchan. Ti konfotme.

Dispues hu sablasus, "Brada, chamu ginagacha' uchan kinilag sa' ai de dios na pinite. Esta inna fuetsas hau para un' fa' amigumu i kemun todu dia". Duron chaleg.

Letters to the Editor

A mountain of problems

The fate of the Mariana High School principal as first reported by your paper was a voluntary resignation by the incumbent. Today, we learned somewhat a different situation in that the PSS commissioner now placed the former MHS principal on administrative leave. If this is the case, then the resignation has turned itself into an "involuntary resignation." From a layman's perspective, a PSS employee vacates his/her property rights in a position upon resignation and made official by the acceptance of the appointing authority, in this case the PSS commissioner. It follows from mere simple logic that when an employee officially resigns his position, that person is no longer an employee. If a person is no longer an employee, then no benefit under promulgated regulation would apply to the person. Hence, granting the former Mariana High School principal administrative leave is illegal. Somehow, my thoughts along this line is that the PSS commissioner may have been receiving ill advice from her trusted lieutenants in PSS who are supposedly the subject expert of this matter that she defers to for proper and legitimate administrative action.

On the other hand, granting administrative leave for a situation like the case of the former Mariana High School principal may fall outside the cause authorized under the administrative leave policy. Only certain factors and parameters could fit the purpose of use of administrative leave. In this particular case, the basis of the administrative may be outside the intended purpose of the administrative leave policy under PSS' promulgated regulation.

Mr. Garrison is right. The PSS commissioner has created an employment condition that is retaliatory in nature. The stream of this situation will continue to incite interest among the stakeholders of PSS as it reveals many subsurface workings that we would never know without the media reporting them as they unfold. A simple resignation now turns to a mountain of problems that could have been just a personnel action that terminates the employment of the incumbent of this position.

Francisco R. Agulto
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

PARABLES

From Page 10

have many golden opportunities waiting to be started. Opportunities to succeed abound here in our own beloved islands with our families and friends. We need not look afar. We fail to understand that it is we ourselves who create and must create a healthy economy and environment. Seek and we shall find the diamonds.

Does what I write sound preachy and corny? Perhaps to some it does. But my motive is not to tell us how to live our lives, but to make us reflect on it and find worthiness within ourselves. Once we reflect on it, we will find the means to succeed.

Someone once explained to me that "Success is a steady progressive realization of a worthy goal." Do we have a goal? Are we moving steadily toward it? Remember if we don't plan, we actually plan for failure without realizing it.

As the old Greek philosopher, Socrates said, "The unexamined life is not worth living." Let's begin the digging and stop making excuses. No buts! Let's do it!

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼76°	▲85° ▼77°	▲85° ▼77°	▲85° ▼77°	▲86° ▼76°

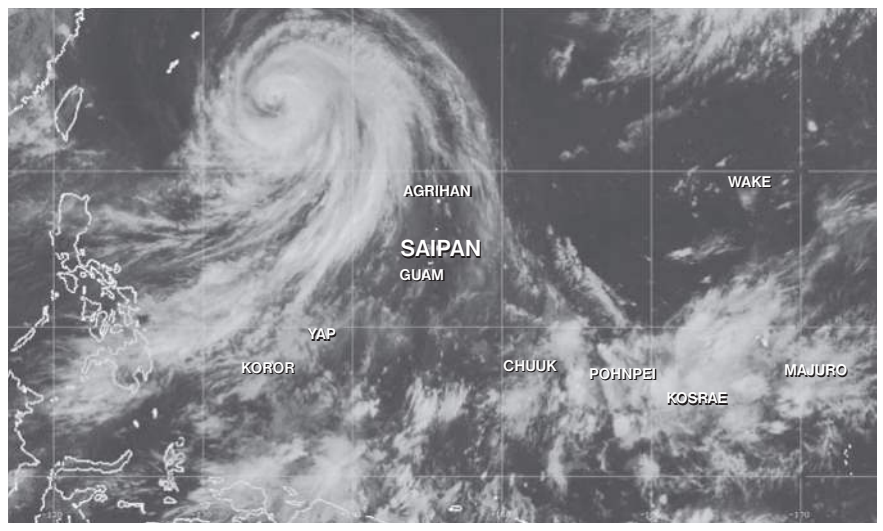
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Rain	▲81	▼75
Palau	Rain	▲85	▼76
Yap	Rain	▲84	▼77
Chuuk	Rain	▲82	▼75
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼76
Kosrae	Rain	▲87	▼78
Majuro	Windy	▲88	▼79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲59	▼50
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲84	▼71
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲88	▼83
Honolulu	Sunny	▲86	▼75
London	Showers	▲64	▼54
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼62
Manila	Thundershowers	▲85	▼81
Melbourne	Showers	▲57	▼48
Miami	Thundershowers	▲86	▼78
New York	Sunny	▲89	▼71
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲83	▼79
Paris	Showers	▲67	▼52
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲82	▼72
Rome	Sunny	▲86	▼68
Salem	Showers	▲70	▼57
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲59	▼52
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼73
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲87	▼77
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲90	▼73

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Ma-on (08W) is centered well northwest of the Marianas at 24N135E and moving northwestward at 12 mph with maximum sustained winds of 125 mph. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are found near the center of Ma-on north of 20N between 131E and 138E. Converging winds farther east and southeast of Ma-on are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from Iwo To Island southwestward to north of Yap and Koror, within 125 miles of a line from 25N141E to 19N141E to 15N138E to 11N130E. For more information on Typhoon Ma-on, see advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO Header WTPQ31 PGUM and bulletins from the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO Header WTPN31 PGTW. Converging surface winds near a ridge axis are creating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Koror, Yap and Guam or south of a line from 1N130E to 7N141E to 6N148E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

3:46 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
8:46 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
3:46 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.4 Feet
10:42 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:55 AM	6:51 PM
Tuesday	5:56 AM	6:51 PM
Wednesday	5:56 AM	6:51 PM
Thursday	5:56 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:57 AM	6:50 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:53 PM	8:14 AM
Tuesday	9:29 PM	9:03 AM
Wednesday	10:05 PM	9:50 AM
Thursday	10:41 PM	10:37 AM
Friday	11:19 PM	11:24 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2011

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
5K382	6:00pm	6:50pm	2, 5, 7
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

MU590	4:30am	7:20am	2, 6
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 4

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT
C09313/933	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN
OZ604/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM
5K168	3:25pm	6:35pm	1, 4, 6
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
5K389	1:35pm	2:25pm	1, 4, 6
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:05pm	12:35am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

MU589	8:50pm	3:30am+1	1, 5
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/288	7:45am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM
PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 4, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:25am+1	3, 6 via GUM
C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
5K169	9:55am	5:00pm	2, 5, 7
OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Expert: NMI veterans' participation in trainings decreasing

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A visiting expert who trains and holds workshops for military veterans is dismayed at the consistently low number of participants in the free seminars they hold in the Commonwealth.

Jackie L. Nguyen, the coordinator for the disabled veterans' outreach program, told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview Thursday that the July 2010 training and a follow-up visit in November last year yielded unsatisfying results in terms of veterans' participation. Those events were specifically designed for veterans and were free of charge.

Nguyen assured, however, that she's not losing hope and vowed to better promote future trainings to attract more attendees.

Her weeklong visit on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian this month marks Nguyen's third and last trip to the islands this fiscal year 2011.

Trained by the U.S. Department of Labor under the Veterans' Labor Employment And Training program, Nguyen conducts three regular visits to the Commonwealth each fiscal year. The objective is to provide assistance to veterans in improving their lives by instilling in them knowledge, skills, and information vital to their development.

Nguyen identified "people's complacency" and the island culture as among the factors for the consistently poor attendance result.

She estimated that the Commonwealth has roughly 5,000 veterans, of which only very few have shown interest in the program's workshops and seminars during regular visits. She defined a veteran as anyone who had served the military within 180 days and who either retired or was discharged from the service.

On her first day on island Wednesday, Nguyen spent time promoting this week's events, which will focus on helping veterans prepare resumes, interview techniques, and how to do job searches.

On Thursday, she conducted the first workshop for case managers and employers of some government agencies. Only a few people were in attendance.

On Friday, Nguyen held a whole-day training at the Workforce Investment Agency office on Capital Hill, not only for veterans but for community members as well.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

Jackie L. Nguyen, the coordinator for the disabled veterans' outreach program, is seen doing a presentation during her first workshop Thursday on island. Nguyen is slated to conduct trainings for the islands' veterans and the community on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

From Sunday through Tuesday, she is expected to do the same on Tinian and Rota before flying back to Guam.

Complacent

Nguyen said many people on the islands are "complacent" and lack the motivation to change. The bad economy, for example, has always been blamed for not landing a job. For Nguyen, people who have the sincere desire to get a job—especially veterans—can make it happen.

It is where her trainings can help. Nguyen underscored the importance of "properly marketing yourselves" through application papers and interview process.

"This is the problem I've seen here on CNMI. If they don't get a job, they blame the economy. You have to network and market yourself properly to land a job," she said.

Nguyen said she wanted to change some belief of community members that "it's not what you know, but who you know in the CNMI."

Nguyen was born and raised in Vietnam and is herself a military veteran. She joined the ROTC in 1986 and got out of the Army in 1992. As a disabled veteran, she said she can truly relate to the experiences and life of fellow service members, wherever they are.

For her weeklong visit, she expressed gratitude to WIA executive director Edith Deleon Guerrero and military veterans' affairs officer Bernie Dela Cruz for all their help and assistance in coordinating the events.

Air Force training on FDM

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on the following dates and times:

- July 18-20, from 11am to 1am
- July 21, from 10am to 1am
- July 22, from 8am to 7pm

The public—especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the dates and times indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. ***(PR)***

June 23, 2011

TO: Hilbert Henry C. San Nicolas

You are in default in your Note dated September 18, 2006, secured by a Mortgage of the same date, executed and delivered by you to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

(a) Description of the real property covered by Mortgage:

Lot No. 008 T 266, situated in Marpo Heights Expansion, Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 812 square meters, more or less, as shown on DLS Check No. 008 T 03 dated March 31, 1999, recorded at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office as File No. 99-848, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

(b)	Date and amount of Note and Mortgage:	September 18, 2006; $48,658.00
(c)	Amount due for principal:	$2,212.00 as of January 1, 2011
(d)	Amount due for interest:	$10,865.85 as of January 1, 2011
(e)	Daily accruing interest:	$8.09
(f)	Late charges	$0

If the principal, interest, and late charges $13,127.85 as of January 1, 2011, plus accruing interest, together with reasonable attorney's fees, are not paid within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this notice upon you, Court proceedings will be commenced against you to foreclose upon the said Mortgage because of the default.

Unless you, within thirty (30) days after receipt of this letter dispute the validity of the claim, or any portion thereof, we will assume that it is valid. If you notify us in writing within this thirty (30) day period that the claim, or any portion thereof, is disputed, we will obtain information on the debt and mail you a copy thereof. Upon your written request within this thirty (30)-day period, we will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the creditor indicated above.

This letter is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for the purpose.

Ti un komple I kontratan debimu (Note) ni un fitma gi September 18, 2006, ni afabobot I Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ma asegurao I tano yan guma ni un empeña gi mismo dia, un fitma yan un entrega I empeña (Mortgage) guato gi Northern Mariana Housing Corporation.

(a) I deskripsion tano ni ma empeña (mortgaged):

Lot No. 008 T 266, situated in Marpo Heights Expansion, Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 812 square meters, more or less, as shown on DLS Check No. 008 T 03 dated March 31, 1999, recorded at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office as File No. 99-848, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

(b)	I Kantida yan I fechan este na debi yan empepeña:	Septembre 18, 2006; $48,658.00
(c)	Kantida un debi para principat:	$2,212.00 asta ki Eneru 1, 2011
(d)	Kantida un debi para interes:	$10,865.85 asta ki Eneru 1, 2011
(e)	Interes kada dia:	$8.09
(f)	Apas pot atrasao (late charges):	$0

Yangin ti un apasi I kantida na principat, interes, yan apas pot atrasao (late charges) $13,127.85 asta Eneru 1, 2011 yan I resanable na apas abugado gi halom trenta (30) dias despues di I fecha ni un resibe este na notisia, un ma konsidera komo ti unkomple I kontratamu (default), ya siempre u-matutuhun kontra hago a kausan kotti ni para uma kondena ya uma dendi I propriadat tano'mu ni un empepeña guato gi Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

Solo yangin halom trenta (30) dias dispues de un resibe este na kata yan un kontra minagahet-ña pot I apudera sino komo I pattida, siempre bai in hongge an asientadu a apulera. Pago yangin un kattayi ham gi halom este I trenta (30) dias siklo man infofotma hao pot I apudera sino komo I pattida para un kontra, pues bai in henta infotmasion pot I dibi-mu dispues un ma kattayi I kopia pot este na de'unta. Anai in resibe I katta-mu gi halom trenta (30) dias siklo, bai in nai'I hao I na'an yan address I akredot komo ti parehu na akredot ma indika guini hulu.

Este na katta para u ma na'kesiña ma rikohi I dibi-mu. Meseha hafa na infotmasion ni in resibe pot este na apudera – siña bai in usa para bai in ke-chagi mu rekohi para este I dibi-mu.

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ.
Attorney at Law

SAIPAN
FISHERMEN'S
ASSOCIATION
27th Annual Saipan
INTERNATIONAL
FISHING TOURNAMENT
July 23-24, 2011
SPECIAL PRIZE $10,000.00
to the 1st team that weights in a Marlin over 624.34 lbs.
Pre-registration
Friday, July 22, 2011 • 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM
Smiling Cove Marina, Delta Weighing Station
$150.00 One Captain, One Angler ($25.00 additional crewmember)
DELTA AIR LINES
Saipan Tinian Rota
For more information, contact Edward Diaz or Frank Tudela
at 1 (670) 664-3200/01 or send inquiries
to ediaz@mymarianas.com or ftudela@mymarianas.com

Business

Congress seeks debt solution, Obama goes to public

By JIM KUHNHENN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—Racing the debt clock, Congress is working on dual tracks while President Barack Obama appeals to the public in hopes of influencing a deal that talks have failed to produce so far.

"We have to ask everyone to play their part because we are all part of the same country," Obama said Saturday, pushing a combination of spending cuts and tax increases that has met stiff resistance from Republicans. "We are all in this together."

In his weekly radio and Internet address, Obama said the wealthiest must "pay their fair share." He invoked budget deals negotiated by GOP President Ronald Reagan and Democratic House Speaker Tip O'Neill—which included a payroll tax increase—and Democratic President Bill Clinton and Republican Speaker Newt Gingrich.

"You sent us to Washington to do the tough things, the right things," he said. "Not just for some of us, but for all of us."

As a critical Aug. 2 deadline approached, the chances that Obama would get $4 trillion or even $2 trillion in deficit reduction on terms he preferred were quickly fading as Congress moved to take control of the debate. At a news conference Friday, Obama opened the door to a smaller package of deficit reductions without revenue increases.

Obama's communications director, Dan Pfeiffer, said Saturday the president, Vice President Joe Biden and White House aides were discussing "various options" with congressional leaders and House and Senate aides from both parties.

The White House held out the possibility of arranging a meeting with the leaders on Sunday.

House Republicans prepared to vote this coming week on allowing an increase in the government's borrowing limit through 2012 as long as Congress approved a balanced-budget constitutional amendment, which is highly unlikely.

In the Senate, the Republican and Democratic leaders worked on a bipartisan plan that would allow Obama to raise the debt limit without a prior vote by lawmakers. The talks focused on how to address long-term deficit reduction in the proposal in hopes of satisfying House Republicans.

A weekend deadline that the president gave congressional leaders to choose one of three deficit reduction options be-

Obama

came a moot point after House and Senate leaders made it clear to the White House on Friday that they were moving ahead with their own plans.

In the Republicans' address Saturday, Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah argued for passage of a balanced-budget amendment. He blamed Democrats for failing to embrace adequate budget cuts and said "the solution to a spending crisis is not tax increases."

An amendment that requires a balanced budget, he said, "would put us on a path to fiscal health and would prevent this White House or any future White House from forcing more debt on the American people."

The government said Friday it was using its last stopgap measure to avoid exceeding the current $14.3 trillion debt limit. Administration officials, economists and the financial markets have warned that missing the Aug. 2 deadline and precipitating a government default would send convulsions through an already weakened economy.

Obama had held five straight days of meeting with congressional leaders at the White House, but none of the three options he proposed—deficit cuts of $4 trillion, $2 trillion or $1.5 trillion over 10 years—were unlocking enough support to increase the debt ceiling by the $2.4 trillion Obama wants to make it last beyond the 2012 elections.

Essentially declaring those discussions over, Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell said Friday: ""Now the debate will move from a room in the White House to the House and Senate floors." By day's end, House Speaker John Boehner held at least two top-level meetings, one with White House Chief of Sta ff Bill Daley and Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner, and the other with House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi.

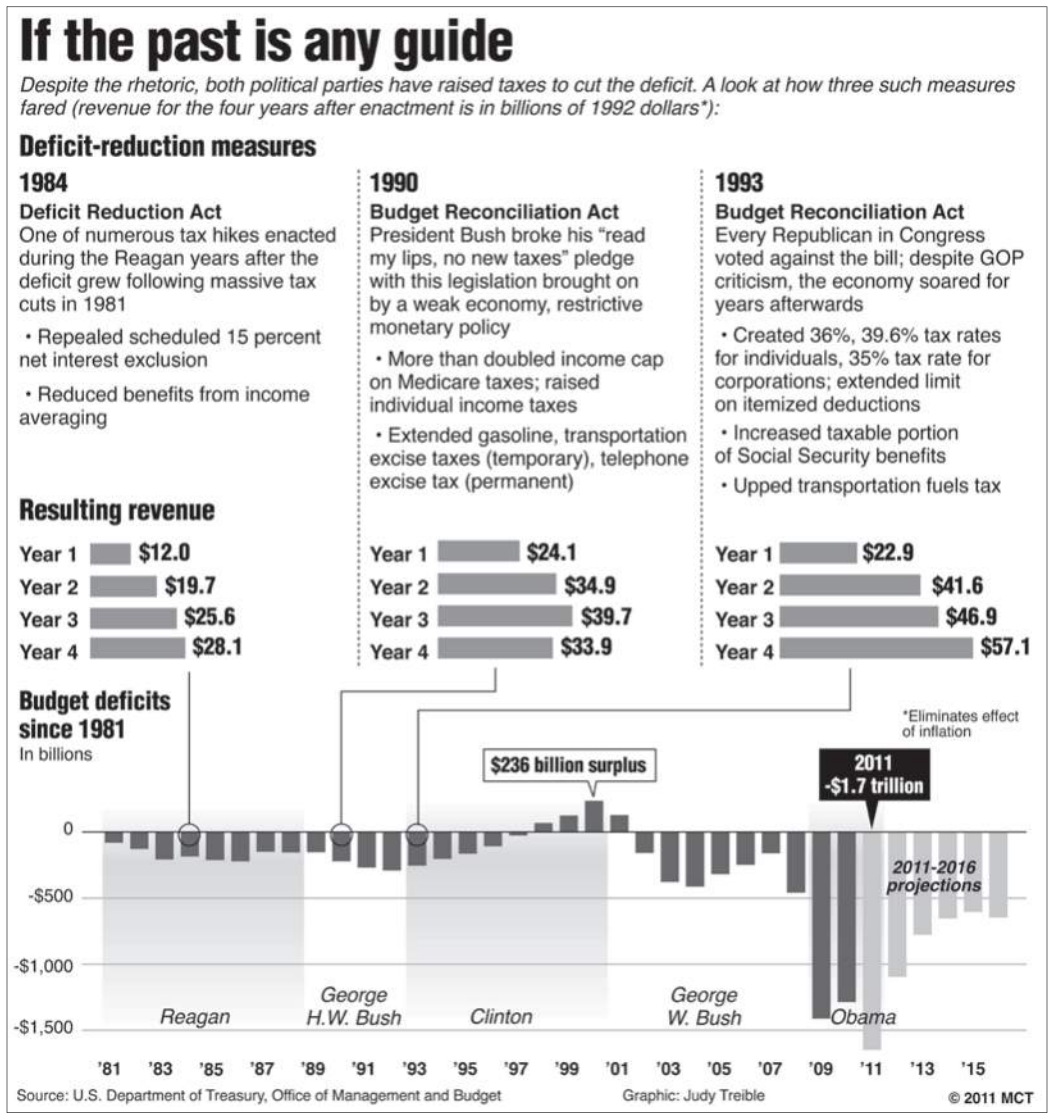
In search of a deal, Obama has used a combination of private meetings with congressional leaders and high visibility press conferences, radio addresses and public statements in an effort to win the public to his side. His pitch is also aimed at independent voters, to whom he is presenting himself as a willing compromiser.

In a White House video distributed Saturday by Obama senior adviser David Plouffe to supporters, Obama is shown praising the virtue of compromise to a group of Democratic, Republican and independent students. He noted that President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation permitted slavery in border states loyal to the Union, in an attempt to hold the nation together.

"Here you've got a wartime president whose making a compromise around probably the greatest moral issue that the country ever faced because he understood that `right now, my job is to win the war and to maintain the union,"' Obama said.

"Can you imagine how the (liberal news outlet) Huffington Post would have reported on that? It would have been blistering. Think about it, `Lincoln sells out slaves.'"

He told the students: "The nature of our democracy and the nature of our politics is to marry principle to a political process that means you don't get 100 percent of what you want."


If the past is any guide
Despite the rhetoric, both political parties have raised taxes to cut the deficit. A look at how three such measures fared (revenue for the four years after enactment is in billions of 1992 dollars*):
Deficit-reduction measures
1984
Deficit Reduction Act
One of numerous tax hikes enacted during the Reagan years after the deficit grew following massive tax cuts in 1981
• Repealed scheduled 15 percent net interest exclusion
• Reduced benefits from income averaging
1990
Budget Reconciliation Act
President Bush broke his "read my lips, no new taxes" pledge with this legislation brought on by a weak economy, restrictive monetary policy
• More than doubled income cap on Medicare taxes; raised individual income taxes
• Extended gasoline, transportation excise taxes (temporary), telephone excise tax (permanent)
1993
Budget Reconciliation Act
Every Republican in Congress voted against the bill; despite GOP criticism, the economy soared for years afterwards
• Created 36%, 39.6% tax rates for individuals, 35% tax rate for corporations; extended limit on itemized deductions
• Increased taxable portion of Social Security benefits
• Upped transportation fuels tax
Resulting revenue
Year 1 $12.0
Year 2 $19.7
Year 3 $25.6
Year 4 $28.1
Year 1 $24.1
Year 2 $34.9
Year 3 $39.7
Year 4 $33.9
Year 1 $22.9
Year 2 $41.6
Year 3 $46.9
Year 4 $57.1
Budget deficits since 1981
In billions
*Eliminates effect of inflation
$236 billion surplus
2011 -$1.7 trillion
2011-2016 projections
0
-$500
-$1,000
-$1,500
Reagan
George H.W. Bush
Clinton
George W. Bush
Obama
'81 '83 '85 '87 '89 '91 '93 '95 '97 '99 '01 '03 '05 '07 '09 '11 '13 '15
Source: U.S. Department of Treasury, Office of Management and Budget
Graphic: Judy Treible
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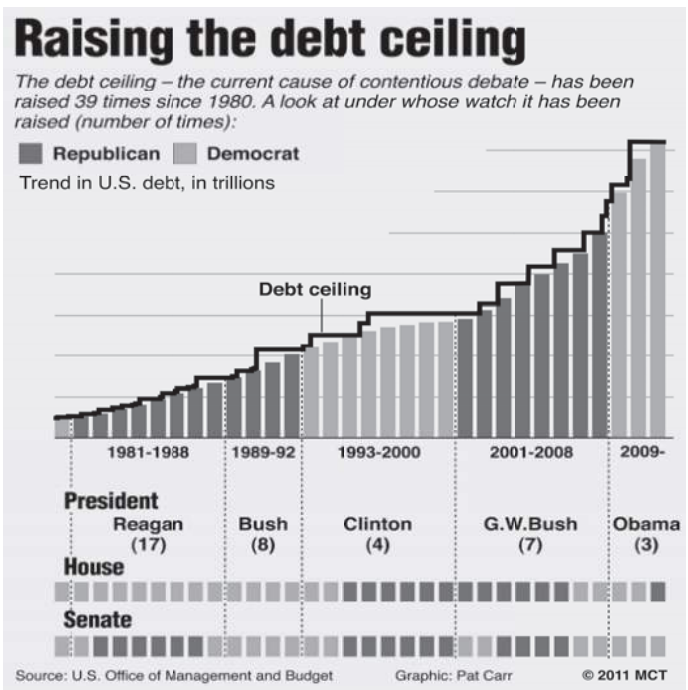


Q&A on debt ceiling standoff

Congress has until Aug. 2 to raise the federal borrowing limit or the government will run out of money and possibly default on its debt. House Republicans say they won't raise the debt limit without equal spending cuts. President Barack Obama and Democrats insist that higher revenues must be included.

Credit rating agency Standard & Poor's warned that there is a 50 percent chance it will downgrade the government's credit rating within three months because of the impasse. Federal Reserve chairman said he fears financial system "chaos." Yet stocks and bonds have barely flinched. For now, investors appear to be betting that lawmakers will reach a deal.

Q: What is the debt ceiling?

A: It's a legal limit on how much debt the government can accumulate. The government takes on debt two ways: It borrows money from investors by issuing Treasury bonds, and it borrows from itself, mostly from the Social Security trust fund, which comes from payroll taxes. Congress created the debt limit in 1917. It's unique to the United States. Most countries let their debts rise automatically when government spending outpaces tax revenue. Congress has increased the debt limit 10 times since 2001.

Q: What is the federal deficit, and how does it differ from the debt?

A: The deficit is how much government spending exceeds tax revenue during a year. Last year, the deficit was $1.29 trillion. The debt is the sum of deficits past and present. Right now, the national debt totals $14.3 trillion—a ceiling set in 2010.

Q: Why is the prospect of not raising the debt ceiling so worrisome?

A: The government now borrows more than 40 cents of each dollar it spends. If the debt ceiling does not rise, the government would need to choose what to pay and what not, including benefits like Social Security, wages for the military or other bills. It also might delay interest payments on Treasury bonds. Any default could lead to financial panic weakening the country's credit rating, the dollar and the already hobbled economy. Interest rates would likely rise, increasing the cost of borrowing for the government and ordinary Americans.

Q: Who holds the $14.3 trillion in outstanding U.S. debt?

A: The U.S. government owes itself $4.6 trillion, mostly borrowed from Social Security revenues. The remaining $9.7 trillion is owed to investors in Treasury securities—banks, pension funds, individual investors, state and local governments and foreign investors and governments. Nearly half of that—$4.5 trillion—is held by foreigners including China with $1.15 trillion and Japan with $907 billion.

Q: How did the debt grow from $5.8 trillion in 2001 to its current $14.3 trillion?

A: The biggest contributors to the nearly $9 trillion increase over a decade were:

- 2001 and 2003 tax cuts under President George W. Bush: $1.6 trillion.
- Additional interest costs: $1.4 trillion.
- Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan: $1.3 trillion.
- Economic stimulus package under Obama: $800 billion.
- 2010 tax cuts, a compromise by Obama and Republicans that extended jobless benefits and cut payroll taxes: $400 billion.
- 2003 creation of Medicare's prescription drug benefit: $300 billion.
- 2008 financial industry bailout: $200 billion.
- Hundreds of billions less in revenue than expected since the Great Recession began in December 2007.
- Other spending increases in domestic, farm and defense programs, adding lesser amounts.

Nation

Casey Anthony freed from jail, slips from view

By MIKE SCHNEIDER and MATT SEDENSKY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Casey Anthony was freed from a Florida jail early Sunday, 12 days after she was acquitted of murder in the death of her 2-year-old daughter Caylee in a verdict that drew furious responses and even threats from people across the U.S. who had followed the case with rapt attention.

Wearing a pink Polo T-shirt and blue jeans, Anthony left the jail at 12:14 a.m. with her attorney, Jose Baez. After three years behind bars, Anthony was given $537.68 in cash from her jail account and escorted outside by two sheriff's deputies armed with semi-automatic rifles. Neither Anthony nor Baez said anything to reporters and protesters gathered outside.

Anthony, looking somber with her eyes cast downward, said "thank you" to a jailer in the few seconds it took to escort her to the waiting SUV.

"It is my hope that Casey Anthony can receive the counseling and treatment she needs to move forward with the rest of her life," Baez said in a statement released to reporters.

News helicopters briefly tracked the SUV through Orlando's streets, but she quickly vanished from public view.

"This release had an unusual amount of security so, therefore, in that sense, it would not be a normal release," Orange County Jail spokesman Allen Moore said. "We have made every effort to not provide any special treatment for her. She's been treated like every other inmate."

Moore said there were no known threats received at the jail. Officials had a number of contingency plans in place, including plans in case shots were fired as she was being released.

After Anthony left the jail, the news helicopters followed the SUV to a covered parking garage at a downtown Orlando office building. The SUV never reemerged and other cars left that area, but it could not be seen if Anthony was in any of them.

A short time later, there was police activity as two vehicles pulled up to a twin-engine private jet at Orlando Executive Airport but no one saw Anthony get out and onto the plane. The news helicopter shots showed only some middle-aged men with luggage and golf travel bags. That plane took off shortly after 1 a.m. Sunday for Ohio, the home state of Anthony's parents.

AP

Casey Anthony, front right, walks out of the Orange County Jail with her attorney Jose Baez, left, during her release in Orlando, Fla., early Sunday, July 17, 2011.

As midnight approached, upward of 100 spectators had gathered outside the jail's booking and release center, where plastic orange barricades had been erected. The crowd included about a half-dozen, sign-carrying protesters who had gathered despite a drenching thunderstorm earlier. Onlookers had varied reactions to her release from the jail, where seven or eight deputies in bullet-proof vests patrolled the area. At least one officer carried an assault weapon and about five officers patrolled on horseback.

"She is safer in jail than she is out here," said Mike Quiroz, who drove from Miami to spend his 22nd birthday outside the jail. "She better watch her butt. She is known all over the world."

Lamar Jordan said he felt a pit in his stomach when he saw Anthony walking free.

"The fact that she is being let out, the fact that it is her child and she didn't say what happened, made me sick," Jordan said.

Not all of those who gathered condemned the 25-year-old.

"I'm for Casey," said Kizzy Smith, of Orlando. "She was proven innocent. At the end of the day, Caylee is at peace. We're the ones who are in an uproar."

Since her acquittal on murder charges on July 5, Anthony was finishing her four-year sentence for telling investigators several lies, including an early claim that Caylee was kidnapped by a nonexistent nanny. With credit for the nearly three years she's spent in jail since August 2008 and good behavior, she had only days remaining when she was sentenced July 7.

The case drew national attention ever since Caylee was reported missing. Cable network HLN aired the entire trial, with pundit Nancy Grace dissecting the case nightly. Vitriol poured into social networking sites after the acquittal, with observers posting angry messages on Twitter and Facebook's "I Hate Casey Anthony" page.

Outraged lawmakers in several states responded by proposing so-called Caylee's laws that would allow authorities to prosecute parents who don't quickly report missing children. And many still speculate about what really happened to Caylee: Was she suffocated with duct tape by her mother, as prosecutors argued? Or did she drown in an accident that snowballed out of control, as defense attorneys contended?

Now that she is free, it's not clear where Anthony will stay or what she will do next.

Oil spill cleanup turns up trove of Indian relics

By CAIN BURDEAU
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAMINADA HEADLAND, La. (AP)—Cleanup after the BP oil spill has turned up dozens of sites where archaeologists are finding human and animal bones, pottery and primitive weapons left behind by prehistoric Indian settlements—a trove of new clues about the Gulf Coast's mound dwellers more than 1,300 years ago. But they also fear the remains could be damaged by oil or lost to erosion before they can be fully studied.

So far, teams of archaeologists hired by the oil giant have visited more than 100 sites and sent back a growing list of finds to labs for radiocarbon dating and other tests, though extensive excavations haven't been done. Scholars have also accompanied cleanup crews to make sure they don't unwittingly throw away relics.

The disaster that began when the Deepwater Horizon exploded in April of 2010 has highlighted the urgent need to protect the sites, but a government scientist says neither their discovery—nor the money to study them—would have come as quickly without the spill.

"We're filling in gaps. There is some pioneering archaeological work going on as a result of the oil spill," said Larry Murphy, lead archeologist for a council of government agencies and trustees overseeing the oil cleanup.

He said uncovering the sites, many of them prehistoric, represents "a great leap in cumulative knowledge" about Native Americans in coastal Louisiana, who have been less studied than their counterparts in other regions.

Still, the oil represents an added threat to an area that already was under siege from land loss and rising sea levels. Oil has contaminated some artifacts and can interfere with radiocarbon dating, a primary technique for determining the age of an object. Many shores are still scattered with tar balls.

Louisiana's state archaeologist, Charles McGimsey, said the extent of the oil damage to artifacts isn't known, but he doesn't expect it to be disastrous.

The Associated Press was given a rare glimpse of several sites in June during a guided tour of the Caminada Headland by land warden and amateur archaeologist Forrest Travirca III. The beaches are closed to the public, and the locations of archaeological sites are being closely guarded to prevent looting.

Prehistoric artifacts had been found and recorded on the headland before the spill, but not to the extent now being done. Travirca began finding more of them while keeping watch for BP's black oil last summer on a remote stretch of beach that looks onto the silhouettes of oil rigs and platforms. The headland was one of the hardest-hit spots.

"I was walking on marine shell, rangia clam shell, walking out on a point I know, when I looked down, found a pot sherd, and then I started finding more and more," Travirca recalled.

Atlanta schools created culture of cheating, fear

ATLANTA (AP)—Teachers spent nights huddled in a back room, erasing wrong answers on students' test sheets and filling in the correct bubbles. At another school, struggling students were seated next to higher-performing classmates so they could copy answers.

Those and other confessions are contained in a new state report that reveals how far some Atlanta public schools went to raise test scores in the nation's largest-ever cheating scandal. Investigators concluded that nearly half the city's schools allowed the cheating to go unchecked for as long as a decade, beginning in 2001.

Administrators—pressured to maintain high scores under the federal No Child Left Behind law—punished or fired those who reported anything amiss and created a culture of "fear, intimidation and retaliation," according to the report released earlier this month, two years after officials noticed a suspicious spike in some scores.

The report names 178 teachers and principals, and 82 of those confessed. Tens of thousands of children at the 44 schools, most in the city's poorest neighborhoods, were allowed to advance to higher grades, even though they didn't know basic concepts.

One teacher told investigators the district was "run like the mob."

"Everybody was in fear," another teacher said in the report. "It is not that the teachers are bad people and want to do it. It is that they are scared."

For teachers and their bosses, the stakes were high: Schools that perform poorly and fail to meet certain benchmarks under the federal law can face sharp sanctions. They may be forced to offer extra tutoring, allow parents to transfer children to better schools, or fire teachers and administrators who don't pass muster.

Experts say the cheating scandal—which involved more schools and teachers than any other in U.S. history—has led to soul-searching among other urban districts facing cheating investigations and those that have seen a rapid rise in test scores.

In Georgia, teachers complained to investigators that some students arrived at middle school reading at a first-grade level. But, they said, principals insisted those students had to pass their standardized tests. Teachers were either ordered to cheat or pressured by administrators until they felt they had no choice, authorities said.

One principal forced a teacher to crawl under a desk during a faculty meeting because her test scores were low. Another principal told teachers that "Walmart is hiring" and "the door swings both ways," the report said.

Another principal told a teacher on her first day that the school did whatever was necessary to meet testing benchmarks, even if that meant "breaking the rules."

Teachers from the investigation contacted by The Associated Press did not return calls or declined to comment.

Educators named in the investigation could face criminal charges ranging from tampering with state documents to lying to investigators. And many could lose their teaching licenses.

Parents of children enrolled at the 44 schools say they are frustrated and angry.

Shawnna Hayes-Tavares said her son's test scores dropped dramatically after he transferred out of Slater Elementary. She said a testing coordinator at the new school told her the test scores could have been inflated.

The possibility that there could have been cheating "gives me and him a false sense of security as to where he is," she said.

Uncertainty about her son's progress "has not afforded us the opportunity to do more remediation in those areas of weakness," Hayes-Tavares said. "It robbed us of those opportunities. We're going to try to play catch up now."

At Slater, investigators found multiple teachers changed answers on tests or allowed students to look up answers to questions. Teachers would gather in the school's media center to change wrong answers with the blessing of administrators, investigators said.

For Renee Columbus, whose 4-year-old son is starting pre-kindergarten at one of the schools in the state investigation, news of the cheating probe was disheartening.

"Right now it's our only option," said Columbus, who lives in south Atlanta. "I'm hoping by the time he gets into kindergarten, we'll be in a different school district."

Asia

China slams Obama's 45-minute meeting with Tibet's Dalai Lama

AP

Assisted by monks, the Dalai Lama, center with hat, mixes mandala sand with river water from the Anacostia River as part of a blessing ceremony in Washington, on Saturday, July 16, 2011.

BEIJING (AP)—China on Sunday slammed President Barack Obama's meeting with the Dalai Lama as an act that has "grossly interfered in China's internal affairs" and damaged Chinese-American relations.

The strident statement from China's Foreign Ministry came hours after Obama met with the Tibetan spiritual leader and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, who was in Washington for an 11-day Buddhist ritual.

China had already called on the United States to stop Saturday's meeting, warning it could hurt relations between the two countries.

After the 45-minute private session at the White House, China said the Foreign Ministry and the Chinese Embassy had lodged objections with U.S. representatives in Beijing and Washington.

"Such an act has grossly interfered in China's internal affairs, hurt the feelings of the Chinese people and damaged Sino-American relations," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Ma Zhaoxu said in the statement.

"We demand the U.S. side seriously consider China's stance, immediately adopt measures to wipe out the baneful impact, stop interfering in China's internal affairs and cease to connive and support anti-China separatist forces that seek 'Tibetan independence,'" Ma said.

China considers the Dalai Lama a separatist intent on ending Chinese rule over Tibet. The Nobel laureate says he seeks only a high level of autonomy for Tibet.

The meeting came less than 10 days before U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton is due to visit the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen and meet with Chinese State Councilor Dai Bingguo, Beijing's top foreign policy official.

"It's difficult to say at the moment whether this meeting will be affected," said Jin Canrong, an international affairs expert at Renmin University. "But this meeting is quite important and whether it takes place or is canceled will give us an indication of what the follow-up impact will be."

Vice President Joseph Biden is also scheduled to visit China this summer, followed by a trip to Washington by his Chinese counterpart, Xi Jinping.

Obama last met with the Dalai Lama in February 2010, infuriating Beijing during a tension-filled year in which China and the U.S. also feuded over online censorship and arms sales for Taiwan. Relations were considered back on track in January when President Hu Jintao visited Washington.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Kidnappers seek ransom for 2 Americans, Filipino

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The kidnappers of an American woman, her son and Filipino nephew in the southern Philippines have telephoned their family by phone demanding a ransom, officials said Sunday. At least 14 gunmen seized Philippine-born U.S. citizen Gerfa Yeatts Lunsmann, her 14-year-old son and 19-year-old nephew Tuesday from a relative's house they were visiting in a village near southern Zamboanga City. They were taken away at gunpoint on board a motor boat, officials said. Asked about the reported ransom, Zamboanga City Mayor Celso Lobregat said without elaborating that U.S. authorities have told Philippine officials the kidnappers called the captives' family and demanded money.

Gunmen kill 7 passengers in northwest Pakistan

PARACHINAR, Pakistan (AP)—A government official says gunmen have killed seven bus passengers in an ambush in northwest Pakistan. The official Mohammed Ali said three people were also injured in Saturday's attack in the Kurram region bordering Afghanistan. He said the dead and injured had been transported to a hospital. Ali says it's not immediately clear who were behind the attack and an investigation is under way. Kurram has witnessed scores of such attacks and kidnappings for ransom in the past several years.

Indonesia volcano spews ash in biggest eruption

TOMOHON, Indonesia (AP)—A government volcanologist says a rumbling volcano in central Indonesia has re-erupted, sending panicked residents racing down back to shelters. There were no immediate reports of casualties. Surono, who uses only one name, says Mount Lokon, located on northern Sulawesi island, unleashed its powerful eruption at 10:35 a.m. Sunday, spitting hot ash and smoke more than 11,400 feet (3,474 meters) into the air. Panicked residents—some of whom were returning to their villages to tend to their crops and animals—raced down back to government shelters.

World

US formally recognizes Libya rebels

ISTANBUL (AP)—The United States and other nations on Friday formally recognized Libya's main opposition group as the country's legitimate government until a new interim authority is formed.

The decision, which declared Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi's regime no longer legitimate, will potentially free up cash that the rebels fighting Libyan forces urgently need.

■■■■

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—Tripoli was rocked by a series of airstrikes by NATO forces in the early hours of the morning Sunday. Libyan television reported that the "NATO crusader forces" had hit civilian and military targets in the eastern suburb of Tajoura. Just after midnight Sunday, a series of dull rumbles and flashes could be seen to the east of Tripoli, illuminating huge plumes of smoke and accompanied by the sporadic tracers of antiaircraft fire. The distant rumbling blasts continued for at least an hour, suggesting some kind of facility with explosive materials had been hit. Aircraft could be heard soaring through the night sky, which was illuminated by a nearly full moon.

■■■■

The front lines in the Libyan civil war have largely stagnated since the popular uprising seeking to oust Gadhafi broke out in February. Rebels, backed by NATO's air force bombings, control much of the country's east and pockets in the west. But Gadhafi controls the rest from his stronghold in Tripoli, the capital.

Foreign ministers and other representatives of the so-called Contact Group on Libya said in a statement Friday that the "Gadhafi regime no longer has any legitimate authority in Libya." They said the Libyan strongman and certain members of his family must go.

The group said it would deal with Libya's main opposition group—the National Transitional Council, or NTC—as "the legitimate governing authority in Libya" until an interim authority is in place. In addition to the U.S., the 32-nation Contact Group on Libya includes members of NATO, the European Union and the Arab League.

Gadhafi, who has been in hiding, quickly rejected the decision and vowed never to surrender.

"I don't care which countries recognize the rebels' transitional council," he said in an audio address broadcast to thousands of supporters in Zlitan, 90 miles (140 kilometers) southeast of Tripoli. "Tell NATO and other countries to pick up the white flag and ask our forgiveness."

"You guys say that Gadhafi is over, then why are all these people demonstrating outside. The Libyan people will persevere. They will never give up," he added, prompting supporters to fire guns in the air and set off fireworks.

The recognition of the Libyan opposition as the legitimate government gives foes of Gadhafi a major financial and credibility boost. Diplomatic recognition of the council means that the U.S. will be able to fund the opposition with some of the more than $30 billion in Gahdafi-regime assets that are frozen in American banks.

'We are sorry' Murdoch tells UK in full-page ad

LONDON (AP)—"We are sorry" the full-page ad began Saturday, as Rupert Murdoch tried to halt a phone-hacking scandal that has claimed two of his top executives with a gesture of atonement and promises to right the wrongs committed by his now-shuttered tabloid, News of the World.

Prime Minister David Cameron's Conservative-led government and the London police, meanwhile, faced increasing questions over their close relationship with Murdoch's media empire.

Cameron was feeling the heat Saturday after government records showed that Murdoch executives have held 26 meetings with him in since he was elected in May 2010 and were invited to his country retreat. Senior police officers also had close ties to Murdoch executives, even hiring one as a consultant who has since been arrested in the phone hacking and police bribery scandal rocking Murdoch's News Corp.

Murdoch is struggling to contain the crisis, which has already forced him to shut down the 168-year-old News of the World, scuttled his bid for lucrative TV broadcaster BSkyB, knocked billions off the value of News Corp. and claimed the jobs of two key aides: Rebekah Brooks, CEO of his British unit News International, and Wall Street Journal publisher Les Hinton.

On Saturday, News Corp. ran an ad in seven British national newspapers with the headline "We are sorry." Signed by Murdoch, it apologized "for the serious wrongdoing that occurred."

"We are deeply sorry for the hurt suffered by the individuals affected. We regret not acting faster to sort things out," it said.

A front-page headline in another Murdoch paper, The Times, called it a "Day of atonement."

WORLD BRIEFS

Chavez surprises with plan to get chemo in Cuba

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—President Hugo Chavez's fight against cancer has taken another surprising turn, with Venezuela's leftist leader announcing plans to fly back to Cuba on Saturday to begin chemotherapy. Chavez has kept a close lid on information about his health problems over the past month but has made headlines with unexpected announcements and appearances. The latest came Friday after Chavez met with Peruvian President-elect Ollanta Humala, then told reporters he was asking permission from lawmakers to return to Havana. That's where he spent much of June undergoing surgeries to remove an abscess and a cancerous tumor in his pelvic region before making a surprise return home July 4.

Brazil begins building 4 conventional submarines

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Brazil has begun building four diesel-powered submarines as part of a 2008 agreement with France that includes the future construction of Latin America's first nuclear submarine. President Dilma Rousseff attended Saturday's ceremony marking the startup of operations at the shipyard where the four Scorpene attack submarines will be built. Each submarine will cost about $565 million. The first is expected to be delivered in 2016. The Brazilian navy says the four vessels represent a first step in moving Brazil toward construction of its first nuclear-propelled submarine.

Syrians stage largest protests yet; 17 killed

BEIRUT (AP)—Hundreds of thousands of Syrians mounted the largest protests Friday since the uprising began more than four months ago, pouring into areas where the government crackdown has been most intense in a sign that security forces cannot break the revolt. Syrian authorities fired on the crowds, killing at least 17 people and wounding more than 100, activists said. In a significant show of the uprising's strength, thousands turned out in the capital, Damascus, which had seen only scattered protests. Until now, much of the dissent against President Bashar Assad has been in impoverished, remote areas.

Focus

AP
In this Thursday, June 30, 2011 picture, Deborah Goldring stands in the living room of her Baltimore home.

Black economic gains reversed in Great Recession

BALTIMORE (AP)—Growing up black in the segregated 1960s, Deborah Goldring slept two to a bed, got evicted from apartment after apartment, and watched her stepfather climb utility poles to turn their disconnected lights back on. Yet Goldring pulled herself out of poverty and earned a middle-class life—until the Great Recession.

First, Goldring's husband fell ill, and they drained savings to pay for nursing homes before he died. Then Goldring lost her executive assistant job in the Baltimore hospital where she had worked for 17 years. The cruelest blow was a letter from the bank, intending to foreclose on her home of almost three decades.

Millions of Americans endured similar financial calamities in the recession. But for Goldring and many others in the black community, where unemployment has risen since the end of the recession, job loss has knocked them out of the middle class and back into poverty. Some even see a historic reversal of hard-won economic gains that took black people decades to achieve.

Goldring remembers her mother taping the window shades to the wall so no one could see them stealing electricity. She remembers each time she sat on the curb with her three brothers, surrounded by her family's belongings, waiting for a new place to live. Sitting on those curbs, she promised to always pay her bills on time.

Now, after finding herself poor again, "the only word I can say is devastated," says Goldring, 58.

"For me to live that life we were so comfortable in, we never had to worry about finances, we always had money where I can help my kids and my grandchildren—to go to calling my daughter to borrow $100 because I can't pay a bill ..." Goldring's voice trails off as she struggles to hold back tears.

Economists say the Great Recession lasted from 2007 to 2009. In 2004, the median net worth of white households was $134,280, compared with $13,450 for black households, according to an analysis of Federal Reserve data by the Economic Policy Institute. By 2009, the median net worth for white households had fallen 24 percent to $97,860; the median black net worth had fallen 83 percent to $2,170, according to the EPI.

Algernon Austin, director of the EPI's Program on Race, Ethnicity and the Economy, described the wealth gap this way: "In 2009, for every dollar of wealth the average white household had, black households only had two cents."

Since the end of the recession, the overall unemployment rate has fallen from 9.4 to 9.1 percent, while the black unemployment rate has risen from 14.7 to 16.2 percent, according to the Department of Labor.

"I would say the recession is not over for black folks," Austin says. He believes more black people than ever before could fall out of the middle class, because the unemployment rate for college-educated blacks recently peaked and blacks are overrepresented in state and local government jobs that are being eliminated due to massive budget shortfalls.

Maya Wiley, director of the Center for Social Inclusion, says the anti-discrimination laws passed in the 1960s took decades to translate into an increase in black economic security—and that was before the recession.

"History is going to say that the black middle class was decimated" over the past few years, Wiley says. "But we're not done writing history."

Goldring was born and raised in Baltimore, and her mother was single for much of Goldring's childhood. At 16, she dropped out of school and went to work cleaning hotel rooms.

"That's when I first met white people. Some of them would stay a month at the hotel. They would have all their children with them," she remembers. "I thought, one day I'd like to hang out at a hotel."

She didn't know any middle-class people in her all-black neighborhood. "Where we lived, everyone struggled. We just struggled a little harder," she says. "If the lights stayed on for a whole year, if we didn't get put out, I thought we were doing really, really well."

At 21, pregnant with her second child, Goldring decided to get her GED. Then she went to community college, got a degree in secretarial work, and began a career.

She met her husband in 1983. He had a steady job as a heating and air-conditioning installer, and owned a brick two-bedroom home in Morgan Park, a leafy, integrated neighborhood.

With two incomes, money was not a problem. He liked to travel. She had never been out of Maryland.

"I thought, `Is this how rich people live?'" Goldring remembers. "From where I was to where I ended up, it was way different."

Her husband had been married before. As a condition of the divorce, his daughter's name was added to the deed of the house. After Goldring's husband died in 2007, Goldring took out a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage, with a 6.5 percent interest rate, to purchase the house outright.

Everything was fine until her hospital "restructured" in 2009. Her boss, a senior vice president, was transferred to the corporate office. Executives were now sharing secretaries. A few months later, they let Goldring go.

No more family vacations. No more trips to the mall. No more filling the grocery cart.

But what Goldring misses the most is her checkbook. Her unemployment payments arrive on a debit card. "Just being able to pull out my checkbook and pay a bill, even though there might not be much left in there," she says. "I really miss that checkbook with my name on it."

This May, black male employment fell to the lowest level since the government began keeping track in 1972. Only 56.1 percent of black men over age 20 were working, compared with 68.3 percent of white men.

Chris Wilder, a Philadelphia journalist, lost his job in 2008 as the media industry suffered huge losses. Unemployment benefits amounted to about one-third of his salary. Ever since they ran out, his income has been near zero, other than sporadic freelance work.

If not for a policy in his apartment co-op to assist people who lose their jobs, "I might be living with my mother," he says.

He has felt depression and anxiety. He's gone from a six-figure salary to having to check his balance before using his bank card. "I miss being able to go into a store and go off budget," he says. "Now, when I go to shop for something, I have to stick to exactly what I came to get. I never have money to buy anything else."

Wilder, 43, grew up solidly middle class, the son of a newspaper editor and a college administrator. Now the single parent of a 15-year-old, he has managed to keep his son in cleats and baseball camps, but thoughts of dying poor have crept into his mind. All of his savings are gone.

"It's definitely harder for black people to get jobs," Wilder says. "With the economy as bad as it is, people are hiring nephews and family friends and friends of friends. It's hard for black people to break that cycle. We don't own or even run the big companies."

"It's hard to keep jobs as well, because they're gonna `last hired/first fired' you," he adds.

Wilder isn't giving up on finding a job in his field, "but I should."

"I call everyone. I send resumes. It is extremely rare that I get a call back," he says. "When I was growing up, I never imagined there would be a time when I was out of work for three years."

College-educated blacks fared worse than their white counterparts in the recession. In 2007, unemployment for college-educated whites was 1.8 percent; for college-educated blacks it was 2.7 percent. Now, the college-educated unemployment rate is 3.9 percent for whites and 7 percent for blacks.

"I've definitely played by the rules," Wilder says.

He's not desperate enough to break the law, but "I see why people become drug dealers."

Horace Davis did become a drug dealer. He illustrates another dimension of the recession's impact on blacks: While law-abiding folks are falling out of the middle class, those who got in trouble with the law are further than ever from a second chance.

After serving four years for drug trafficking, Davis walked out of prison into the middle of the recession in 2008. "I thought to myself, I'm older, I need to get a job, move on. The dope game was dead to me," Davis says, sitting on a concrete porch in an Asheville, N.C., housing project.

In the past few decades of the "War on Drugs," harsh sentencing laws have sent a disproportionate number of black people to prison, even though blacks are not more likely than whites to sell or use drugs, according to a 2008 report by the Sentencing Project. Today, about 280,000 African-Americans emerge from behind bars each year. They are often the last of the last to be hired.

After Davis got out, he spent months applying for dozens of jobs mopping floors or flipping burgers. He carried a letter from the state offering a $2,500 tax credit for hiring ex-offenders. He got one call back, from a chicken restaurant. "We'll be in touch," Davis remembers them saying. They weren't.

"Nobody wants black felons in their businesses," says Davis, 26.

A 2003 University of Chicago study by Devah Pager sent young white and black "testers" to apply for real low-wage jobs. Some of the testers were randomly assigned felony convictions. The study found that whites with felonies were slightly more likely to get callbacks than black applicants without criminal records.

"The penalty of a criminal record is more disabling for black job seekers than whites," Pager and other researchers wrote in a follow-up study in 2009.

Davis says he learned skills in prison: "How to cook, clean, horticulture, janitorial. I can do it. I've been trained. Tile, carpentry, mortar, edging and trimming, all that. I can operate a backhoe, a roller. Any opportunity to do something that would show my talents, I'd do it. It would be my ticket out the streets.

"I just need someone to give me that chance. A nice construction job, anything. I would hold onto that until I die."

Some economists say the real black unemployment rate is as high as 25 or 30 percent, because government figures don't count "discouraged" workers who have stopped looking for jobs and dropped out of the labor force.

Davis now falls into that category—partly due to societal forces and partly, he knows, because of his own bad decisions.

Recently, police said they caught Davis with a half-ounce of marijuana. His trial date is approaching. As a habitual felon, he could get a 10-year sentence.

Some see a bitter irony in soaring black unemployment

See BLACK on Next Page

Health & Fitness

EPA tips to be cool and safe this summer

» Limit the heat and the sun, but not the fun

WASHINGTON—The Environmental Protection Agency is providing tips to protect people from the dangers of overexposure to the sun and heat while still enjoying summer activities. Excessive heat and ultraviolet radiation are dangerous to people's health. Each year, more people on average die in the U.S. from heat waves than from any other natural disaster. And every hour, one American dies from skin cancer, which is the most common cancer in the U.S.

During the summer months, days are longer and more people are outside for longer periods of time, increasing the health risks from heat exhaustion and overexposure to the sun. Cities and suburbs are particularly vulnerable to higher temperatures during the summer. Many cities and suburbs have air temperatures that can be up to 22 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than the surrounding countryside. Buildings and roads intensify heat and UV dangers as they absorb the sun's rays and radiate the heat back throughout the day and night, known as the heat island effect. Heat islands can intensify heat waves. To help reduce the heat island effect, plant trees, shrubs, and vines, which create shade and protect people from UV radiation.

To avoid heat exhaustion and overexposure to the sun, follow these steps to stay cool and safe this summer:

Stay hydrated.

Wear lightweight clothing. To keep your body temperature down and stay protected from UV radiation, wear lightweight, light-colored, and loose-fitting clothing.

Apply sunscreen. Approximately 30 minutes before heading outside, apply SPF 15 or higher sunscreen, and reapply every two hours.

Protect your eyes and face. Wear a wide-brimmed hat and sunglasses to protect your eyes from sun damage and the development of cataracts.

Seek shade. Find shade during the sun's peak hours between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. to reduce the risk of too much sun exposure

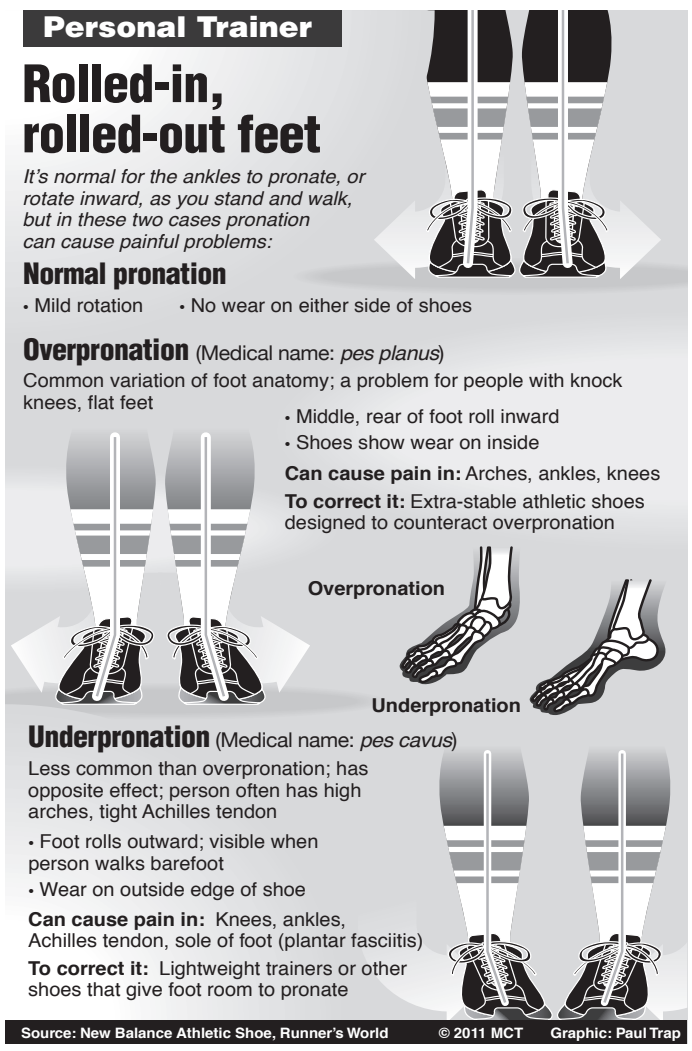
Teach sun and heat safety. Keep an eye on others, particularly the elderly, remind them to be safe in the sun and the heat. Watch for signs of heat illnesses, which can include hot and dry skin, confusion, hallucinations, and aggression.

Check the UV Index. When planning outdoor activities check the UV Index to identify the times that pose the greatest risk for overexposure to the sun.

Check the Air Quality Index. On hot summer days, ozone levels can rise making the air unhealthy to breathe so be sure to check the air quality index before heading outside.

ON THE NET

- How to reduce heat island effect: http://www.epa.gov/heatisland/
- Extreme heat events: http://www.epa.gov/naturalevents/extremeheat.html
- Sun safety tips: http://www.epa.gov/sunwise.
- Check the UV index: http://www.epa.gov/sunwise/uvindex.html
- Check Air Quality Index: http://www.airnow.gov/


Personal Trainer
Rolled-in, rolled-out feet
It's normal for the ankles to pronate, or rotate inward, as you stand and walk, but in these two cases pronation can cause painful problems:
Normal pronation
• Mild rotation • No wear on either side of shoes
Overpronation (Medical name: pes planus)
Common variation of foot anatomy; a problem for people with knock knees, flat feet
• Middle, rear of foot roll inward
• Shoes show wear on inside
Can cause pain in: Arches, ankles, knees
To correct it: Extra-stable athletic shoes designed to counteract overpronation
Overpronation
Underpronation
Underpronation (Medical name: pes cavus)
Less common than overpronation; has opposite effect; person often has high arches, tight Achilles tendon
• Foot rolls outward; visible when person walks barefoot
• Wear on outside edge of shoe
Can cause pain in: Knees, ankles, Achilles tendon, sole of foot (plantar fasciitis)
To correct it: Lightweight trainers or other shoes that give foot room to pronate
Source: New Balance Athletic Shoe, Runner's World
© 2011 MCT
Graphic: Paul Trap

FDA questions safety of experimental diabetes drug

By MATTHEW PERRONE
AP HEALTH WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—Federal health regulators have concerns about bladder and breast cancer seen in patients taking an experimental diabetes pill from Bristol-Myers Squibb and AstraZeneca.

The Food and Drug Administration said in an online review Friday that there were more cases of cancer among patients taking the company's drug than those taking a dummy pill. It was not clear whether the higher rate was caused by a statistical fluke or the drug itself.

A panel of FDA advisers meets next Tuesday to discuss the drug's safety and effectiveness. Along with cancer, the FDA will also ask the panel to comment on the drug's effects on kidney and liver function. FDA will make the final decision on the drug's approval.

Dapagliflozin is a once-a-day pill designed to help type 2 diabetes patients eliminate excess sugar in their urine. It differs from older drugs that decrease the amount of sugar absorbed from food. If approved, Bristol and AstraZeneca's drug would be a new option for diabetics, who must often rotate through several medications to control their disease.

But FDA scientists have concerns about the drug's safety, particularly after higher rates of bladder and breast cancer that were reported in company trials. The companies reported 10 bladder cancers among patients taking the drug compared with none on those taking a dummy pill. There were nine breast cancers compared with one in the control group. While neither study was designed to measure cancer risk, FDA scientists noted that the number of bladder cancers "significantly exceeded the rates expected" in diabetes patients.

Bristol-Myers and AstraZeneca have touted the drug as the first in a new class of drugs to address the nation's growing diabetes epidemic, which affects more than 25 million people.

In two-year studies of the drug, patients taking dapagliflozin had lower blood sugar levels and lost more weight than patients taking an older diabetes drug, Glucotrol.

But in its final conclusion the FDA said those results must be weighed against various safety concerns, including cancer, liver injury and bladder infection.

People with type 2 diabetes are unable to properly break down carbohydrates, either because their bodies do not produce enough insulin or because of resistance to insulin. They are at higher risk for heart attacks, kidney problems, blindness and other serious complications.

Diabetics often require multiple drugs with different mechanisms of action to control their blood sugar levels.

New York-based Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. and London-based AstraZeneca PLC already co-market the diabetes drug Onglyza, which increases insulin production while reducing glucose production.

How to recover after a long run

By ALISON JOHNSON
DAILY PRESS (NEWPORT NEWS, VA.)

To help your body bounce back from distance running, listen to Dave McGillivray, race director for the Boston Marathon—and a marathon runner himself—and his frequent running partner Josh Nemzer. "Recovery from a long run begins immediately after you finish it," McGillivray says:

KEEP MOVING. After a run, try to walk for at least five minutes instead of immediately coming to a full stop, which can cause cramping, nausea or dizziness. Once you stop, do some light stretching to boost circulation to muscles.

REPLENISH FLUIDS. No matter how much you've had to drink on a run, you'll need water or sports energy drinks as soon as possible after the finish to guard against dehydration. Stay away from soda, alcohol and caffeine.

HAVE A SNACK. Fresh fruit, yogurt, pretzels or bagels are good choices for giving you the calories you need without being too heavy on the stomach. Eat as quickly as you can after a run and have plenty of healthy snacks and meals throughout the day.

SOAK YOUR LEGS IN COLD WATER. The temperature will promote circulation to your leg muscles, helping the healing process (heat, on the other hand, can increase swelling and soreness). You can take a bath or shower, douse your legs with water from a hose or use an ice pack.

SCALE BACK ON WORKOUTS. Don't push your pace or distance for at least a few days after a long run. Try some cross training—walk, swim or bike, for example—or short runs until your legs feel fresh again.

BLACK

From Page 17

and the decline of the black middle class on the watch of the first black president.

"I thought Barack Obama could have provided some way out. But he lacks backbone," Princeton professor Cornel West told truthdig.com recently.

He said Obama had sold out the poor and become "a black mascot of Wall Street oligarchs and a black puppet of corporate plutocrats ... I don't think in good conscience I could tell anybody to vote for Obama."

Yet many jobless blacks do not blame their plight on the president.

"I have no problem with Obama when I look at what the alternatives are," Wilder says.

Goldring doesn't think Obama is doing a bad job either. "The unemployment situation is not the best, but I don't think it has a lot to do with him," she says. "Fixing this economy, it's going to take time.

Wiley, the Center for Social Inclusion director, says Obama should be applauded for several initiatives that have helped the black middle class, such as programs to modify certain mortgages and prevent foreclosure due to job loss.

She would have liked Obama to aggressively counter the suggestion that first black president would be showing favoritism if he specifically helped black people.

"It's the right thing to do for the nation," she says. "Black people are a huge segment of the population, they're especially hard-hit, and the country cannot recover if the black community—as well as the white community and others—does not recover."

Black homeownership hit an all-time high in 2004, with 50 percent of African-Americans owning their homes, according to census data.

Today, the black homeownership rate is 45 percent, compared with 74 percent for whites. Nearly 8 percent of African-Americans who bought homes from 2005-2008 have lost them to foreclosure, compared with 4.5 percent of whites, according to an estimate by the Center for Responsible Lending.

Goldring remembers that when she got the foreclosure notice from the bank, "I bawled."

Her son, Chris Fredericks, says she was "vulnerable, more than I have ever seen her, but she still kept moving."

He was incredulous that his mother was in such a position. "At any point, you can slip back. It's just the way the economy is going," he says. "Once you get into a spiral, there's no telling how far down you could go."

One day, at a counseling session on how to prevent foreclosure, Goldring learned about a new Maryland program that offered help to people who were behind on their mortgages due to layoffs or medical bills.

She thought it was too good to be true. It wasn't.

The Emergency Mortgage Assistance program, financed by federal money, offered a zero-interest loan of up to $50,000. The money would pay off up to a year of back mortgage payments, plus up to two years of regular payments. All Goldring had to do was pay 31 percent of her current gross income, or the full mortgage payment if she got a new job close to her original salary.

And so on a sweltering June day, Goldring stood before a podium in her freshly mulched back yard, flanked by a congressman, the mayor, the lieutenant governor, and other officials. The sound of chirping birds filled the air. Cameras rolled as the dignitaries told Goldring's story, using her as an example to spread word of the Emergency Mortgage Program to other struggling homeowners.

"I want to thank you for your courage," said the lieutenant governor, Anthony Brown.

"I know you did everything right," Brown said. "You worked hard, you saved diligently, but challenges never overtaking our will sometimes overtake our wallets."

Goldring stood in front of the microphone and exhaled.

"After this," she said, "the only good thing would be to be employed, once again."

Life & Style

Huge sculpture of Marilyn unveiled in Chicago

CHICAGO (AP)—Marilyn Monroe's billowing skirt shows it's possible to catch a nice breeze in the Windy City.

As dozens of people watched Friday, a 26-foot (8-meter)-tall sculpture of Monroe in her famous pose from the film "The Seven Year Itch" was unveiled on Chicago's Magnificent Mile. In the film, a draft catches Monroe's dress as she passes over a subway grate.

Many in the crowd that descended on the plaza throughout the day—including a tuxedo-clad wedding party—wasted little time positioning themselves under the movie star's dress to catch a subway-level view and take pictures with their cell phone cameras. Not that Monroe, her eyes closed and a sublime smile on her face, seemed to notice.

Some of those who took pictures of the sculpture called "Forever Marilyn" were surprised when they came around the side and back of the sculpture and saw honest-to-goodness lace panties on the movie icon. The film scene and photographs taken from it left much more to the imagination than artist Seward Johnson's sculpture.

"I would have expected to see something flat there, and we wouldn't see her undergarments," said Trisha Feely, 41, who lives in the Chicago suburb of Naperville. "It's a little intrusive."

"It reveals what everybody was always thinking," said her husband, Terry Feely, 42.

The actual white dress worn by Monroe in the scene from director Billy Wilder's 1955 film that helped make her a screen legend sold for $4.6 million at an auction last month of Hollywood costumes and props collected by film star Debbie Reynolds.

Chicago has a history of public art displays, including a herd of fiberglass cows that lined Michigan Avenue some years back. The plaza where Monroe will be stationed until next spring was the home a few years ago to another Johnson sculpture: the equally iconic, though far less glamorous, farmer and his spinster daughter from Grant Wood's "American Gothic."

The Monroe sculpture isn't even the first piece of public art that people can stand under and look up at—though nobody who visits the Picasso a few blocks away quite knows what they're seeing.

Marilyn, though, is a different story.

AP

The curious gather around Seward Johnson's 26-foot-tall sculpture of Marilyn Monroe, in her most famous wind-blown pose, on Michigan Ave. Friday, July 15, 2011 in Chicago.

"Thank God, she has panties," said Wanda Taylor, voicing the relief of a mother who wouldn't have to spend the next several hours answering questions from her 9-year-old son, Kendall Sculfield. "They're clean and white, so I'm happy."

Monroe's ex-husband, baseball star Joe DiMaggio, was reported to have been upset during the filming of the scene in 1954, and the couple divorced a few months later.

But 52-year-old Pam Jennelle, of Orlando, Florida, couldn't understand how anyone could be offended or uncomfortable with the sculpture.

"They're perfectly proper white lace panties," she said.

Besides, she said, the sculpture, particularly the look on Monroe's face, captured the magic that people still feel a half century after the movie star's death.

"She's beautiful," she said. "How can you not love Marilyn Monroe?"

Police say Picasso theft was part of luxury spree

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A string of art heists at New York galleries and hotels went unsolved until an arrest in the theft of a Picasso drawing in San Francisco led authorities to a treasure trove inside a nondescript New Jersey apartment.

Police believe Mark Lugo is responsible for at least eight thefts since June totaling nearly $700,000 worth of artwork, including a $350,000 drawing by French artist Fernand Leger. Pieces from seven of those thefts were recovered during a police raid of Lugo's Hoboken, New Jersey, home, as he awaited arraignment in the eighth case in San Francisco.

Lugo, 30, pleaded not guilty Friday to charges of grand theft, burglary and possession of stolen property for allegedly stealing the 1965 Picasso drawing called "Tete de Femme (Head of a Woman)."

Workers at the Weinstein Gallery reported that a young man brazenly snatched the piece, worth more than $200,000, from the wall on July 5 and casually walked away. Surveillance video from a nearby restaurant showed a man matching Lugo's description strolling by with the framed drawing tucked under his arm.

The taking of another Picasso from the William Bennett Gallery in Manhattan's Soho district went similarly.

The thief came into the gallery during business hours on June 27, lifted the piece off the wall and walked out with a rare print of the etching "Sculptor and Two Heads" worth about $30,000, said William Ledford, managing partner of the gallery.

"We've got a Picasso installation downstairs and he sort of went right to the middle of it and basically just lifted the piece off the wall," Ledford said. "Soho is such a retail-centric area, and everybody's got shopping bags. Our best guesstimate is that he just kind of stuffed it in a shopping bag and off he went."

AP

This May 23, 2011 image from surveillance video provided by Gary's Wine & Marketplace shows Mark Lugo walking in the store in Wayne, NJ.

The next day, it happened at the posh Carlyle hotel on the city's Upper East Side.

The 1917 Leger piece, "Composition with Mechanical Elements," disappeared from a hallway in the hotel lobby around 3 a.m. on June 28, according to Christina Warner, assistant director of the Helly Nahmad Gallery, which had loaned the drawing to the hotel.

"He's got a lot of confidence to do that," Warner said.

Lugo apparently also had good taste.

Police who raided his apartment said the stolen works were prominently displayed around his home and may not have been meant for sale.

"The Picasso was hanging on his wall," said Hoboken Police Sgt. Edwin Pantoja. "The others were displayed all over his apartment. He had a nice little gallery going on."

Lugo worked at upscale Manhattan restaurants, including Per Se, where he was a kitchen server in 2005 and 2006, said its spokesman Gerald San Jose. San Jose declined further comment, other than to say Lugo left his job in good standing.

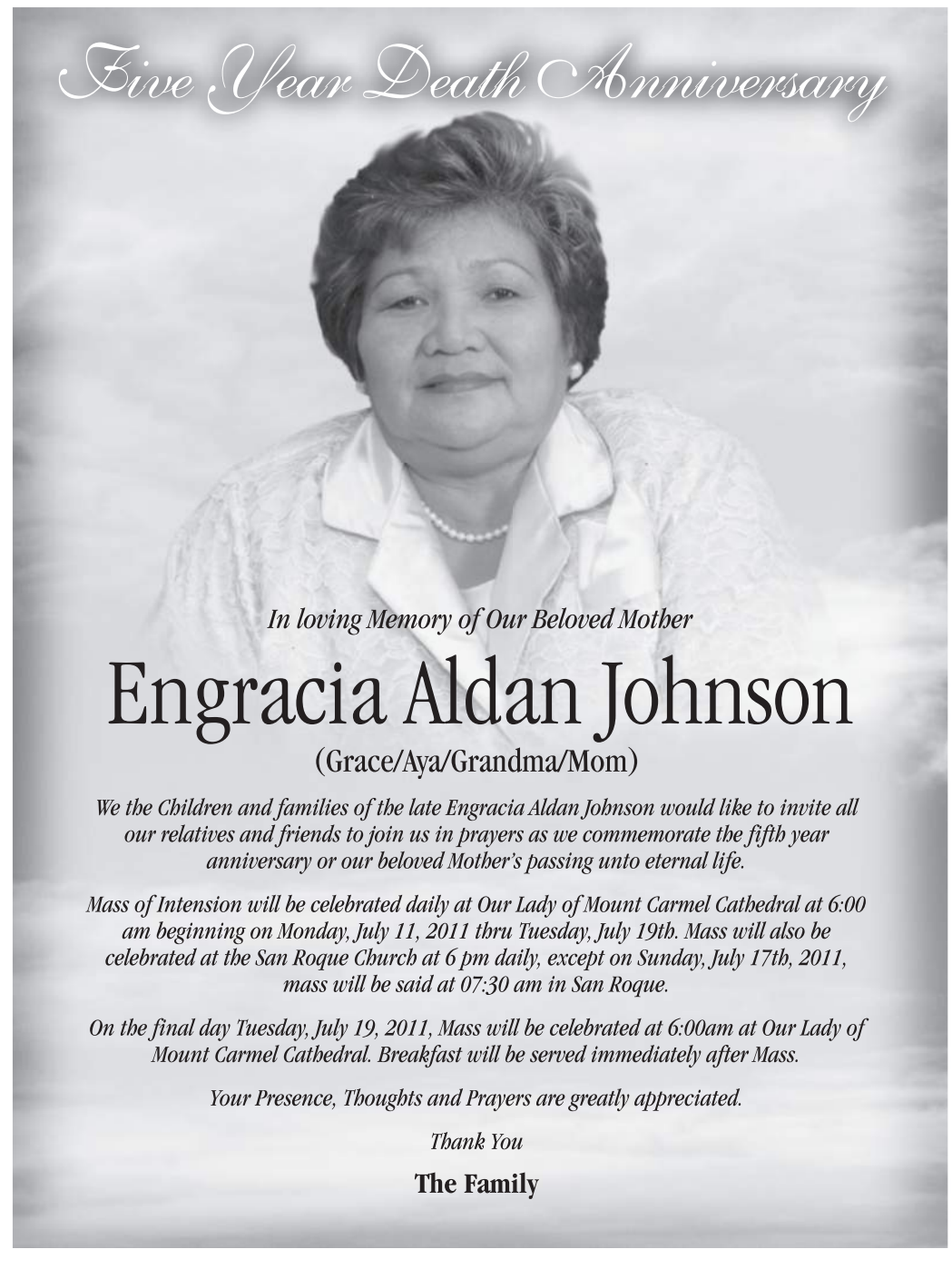
Police say art wasn't the only luxury for Lugo, who also worked as a wine steward.

He faces charges in New Jersey for allegedly stealing $6,000 worth of wine from Gary's Wine & Marketplace in April.

Lugo was caught on security cameras taking two $2,000 bottles of 2006 Chateau Petrus Pomerol on April 25, said Robert Lesnick, the New Jersey store's loss-prevention manager. He returned four days later to take another bottle—wearing the same clothes, Lesnick said.

"This guy is a habitual thief," Lesnick said. "He has good taste, apparently. But he's still a thief."

Authorities in New Jersey and New York will have to wait to prosecute Lugo, who remains in a San Francisco jail on $5 million bail. He was arrested after police tracked him to a Napa hotel, where the Picasso was found unframed and prepared for shipping.


Five Year Death Anniversary
In loving Memory of Our Beloved Mother
Engracia Aldan Johnson
(Grace/Aya/Grandma/Mom)
We the Children and families of the late Engracia Aldan Johnson would like to invite all our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the fifth year anniversary or our beloved Mother's passing unto eternal life.
Mass of Intension will be celebrated daily at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral at 6:00 am beginning on Monday, July 11, 2011 thru Tuesday, July 19th. Mass will also be celebrated at the San Roque Church at 6 pm daily, except on Sunday, July 17th, 2011, mass will be said at 07:30 am in San Roque.
On the final day Tuesday, July 19, 2011, Mass will be celebrated at 6:00am at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral. Breakfast will be served immediately after Mass.
Your Presence, Thoughts and Prayers are greatly appreciated.
Thank You
The Family

Jennifer Lopez, Marc Anthony call it quits

AP

In this Friday March 4, 2011 picture, Jennifer Lopez, left, and husband Marc Anthony attend a signing ceremony for filmmaking incentive legislation for the U.S. island territory in Bayamon, Puerto Rico. The superstar couple announced Friday, July 15, 2011 they are breaking up.

By NEKESA MUMBI MOODY
AP MUSIC WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—With three failed marriages between them, Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony finally seemed to find true love together when they married seven years ago. They had twin children, went on tour together, did a movie together and even planned a music-based reality show they were working on together.

But on Friday, the pair announced they were no longer together.

"We have decided to end our marriage. This was a very difficult decision," the couple said in a statement by Lopez's publicist. "We have come to amicable conclusion on all matters. It is a painful time for all involved and we appreciate the respect of our privacy at this time."

It was a surprising split for one of Hollywood's most high-profile couples. They seemed inseparable: Lopez even danced in the background for her crooner husband when he performed on "American Idol," where she debuted as a judge this past season.

The pair, both of Puerto Rican heritage, married in 2004 after years of knowing each other. He was ending a marriage to former Miss Universe Dayanara Torres, while she had recently endured a high-profile breakup with Ben Affleck.

Lopez had been married twice before in brief unions to Ojani Noa and Chris Judd and had a famous romance with Sean "Diddy" Combs.

Her union with Anthony was her most enduring public relationship. The pair did a joint tour together and starred in the movie "El Cantante" in 2006.

They also had two children, twins Emme and Max. They were Lopez's first children; Anthony had a child from Torres and another from a previous relationship.

In April, the pair, both 42, announced plans for a television show together, "Q'Viva! The Chosen," with Simon Fuller, the creator of "Idol." The show was to feature the superstar couple as they traveled the world to find the best performers in Latin music, dance and other arts with the goal of creating a live extravaganza.

The show had no airdate, and it's unclear if it will continue.

Lopez released her latest album, titled "Love?" this year. Her career, which lulled in recent years, has surged since she became an "Idol" judge.

Aretha Franklin's publishing company sued over royalties

DETROIT (AP)—A longtime songwriting partner of Aretha Franklin has sued her publishing company, claiming it did not sign a royalty agreement for a song on her recently released album.

The suit filed in U.S. District Court in Detroit by Norman D. West also accuses Springtime Publishing Inc., of copyright infringement over an earlier song and seeks unspecified damages to ensure future royalties.

West said no royalty agreement was signed for "Put It Back Together Again." That song and "New Day," which West said he co-wrote, appear on "Aretha: A Woman Falling Out of Love." The CD was released this spring—her first studio album in about eight years.

West, 45, and Franklin have worked together on songs for more than 20 years. His lawsuit asks a judge to order Springtime Publishing to sign the royalty agreement.

"These are two parties that have a long-standing working collaboration," West's attorney, Jeffrey Thennisch, told The Detroit News. "Mr. West has the utmost respect for Springtime and everyone associated with it. Mr. West has told me that he owes much of his career to Aretha Franklin and that he views her as both a mentor and a guiding force in his career."

The lawsuit was filed, West claims, after private attempts to settle the dispute failed over the past year.

West's copyright infringement claim is over an earlier song, "Watch My Back."

The Associated Press left messages Saturday seeking comment from Franklin's attorney.

Franklin has had a busy and eventful past few months. The music legend underwent surgery in early December in Detroit for an undisclosed ailment. She attributed losing more than 80 pounds (36 kilograms) to a change in diet and exercise.

She fractured a toe on her left foot in June, but continues to perform.

'Harry Potter' conjures first-day record of $92.1M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Harry Potter has cast his biggest spell yet with a record-breaking first day at the box office for his final film.

Distributor Warner Bros. reports that "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2" summoned up $92.1 million domestically on opening day Friday.

That's nearly $20 million more than the previous record-holder, "The Twilight Saga: New Moon," which took in $72.7 million in its first day two years ago.

The film added $75 million in 57 overseas countries Friday, raising its international total to $157.5 million since it began rolling out Wednesday. That gives the film a worldwide total of about $250 million.

Among its first-day totals Friday was $14.8 million in Great Britain, which Warner Bros. reported was the biggest single day ever for a movie.

The first 3-D film in the series, "Deathly Hallows: Part 2" benefited from the higher price theaters charge for 3-D tickets, which cost a few dollars more than 2-D.

In a single day, "Deathly Hallows: Part 2" took in more money than four of the previous seven "Harry Potter" films did over their entire opening weekends.

The finale of the "Harry Potter" saga also set a record for midnight screenings with $43.5 million. That topped "The Twilight Saga: Eclipse," which pulled in about $30 million in its first midnight shows last year.

Box-office tracker Hollywood.com projected Saturday that "Deathly Hallows: Part 2" also could break the opening-weekend record of $158.4 million domestically held by "The Dark Knight."

AP

In this film publicity image released by Warner Bros. Pictures, Ralph Fiennes portrays Lord Voldemort in a scene from "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2."

HARRY POTTER TRIVIA

By ELAINE VUONG
NEWSDAY

OK, "Potter" fans — it's been a long road for Harry and his pals. How well do you remember the journey? Take our trivia quiz.

1. What is Dumbledore's full name?

A. Albus Sirius Remus Percival Dumbledore
B. Albus James Brian Wulfric Dumbledore
C. Albus Percival Wulfric Brian Dumbledore
D. Albus Brian Bilius Percival Dumbledore

2. What Hogwarts house was Moaning Myrtle in?

A. Gryffindor
B. Ravenclaw
C. Slytherin
D. Hufflepuff

3. Who was Hermione's date to the Yule Ball?

A. Harry Potter
B. Ron Weasley
C. Dean Thomas
D. Viktor Krum

4. Name the three Peverell brothers.

A. Cadmus, Remus and Peter
B. Godric, Salazar and Padfoot
C. Antioch, Cadmus and Ignotus
D. Antioch, Cadmus and Marvolo

5. What spell is used to erase one's memory?

A. Obliviate
B. Obscuro
C. Periculum
D. Alohomora

ANSWERS:
1. C
2. B
3. D
4. C
5. A

Jane Fonda: QVC axed my appearance over politics

NEW YORK (AP)—Jane Fonda says she's been banished from QVC amid concerns about her political past. The network says it was a routine programming change.

Fonda was set to appear on the home-shopping channel on Saturday to promote her new book on aging, "Prime Time." But the day before, she learned her segment had been cancelled.

In a statement posted on her website, Fonda says QVC told her of receiving "a lot of calls" from viewers criticizing her opposition to the Vietnam War and threatening to boycott the show if she was allowed to appear.

Fonda goes on to say she is "deeply disappointed that QVC caved to this kind of insane pressure" and declares, "I love my country."

Paul Capelli, a spokesman for West Chester, Pa.-based QVC, confirmed Fonda's cancelled appearance, but specified no reason.

"It's not unusual to have a schedule change with our shows and guests with little or no notice," he said in an e-mail. Fonda is not currently re-scheduled to appear, he said.

Fonda was dubbed "Hanoi Jane" nearly 40 years ago after visiting the North Vietnamese capital, where she made radio broadcasts critical of U.S. war policy. While there, she was photographed sitting on an anti-aircraft gun laughing and clapping.

Though she still defends her anti-war activism, Fonda has acknowledged that the photo incident was "a betrayal" of American forces.

"That two-minute lapse of sanity will haunt me until the day I die," she wrote in her 2006 autobiography.

The 73-year-old actress won Oscars for her films "Coming Home" and "Klute." Besides her books, she has also produced and starred in a number of bestselling exercise videos.

"Prime Time" will be released next month.

TNT cancels 'Men of a Certain Age,' cites ratings

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ray Romano's award-winning TV series "Men of a Certain Age" has been canceled after two seasons.

Calling it a "difficult decision," the cable network TNT said Friday the show failed to attract a big enough audience despite its excellence. "Men of a Certain Age" averaged 2.7 million viewers for the episodes that concluded this month.

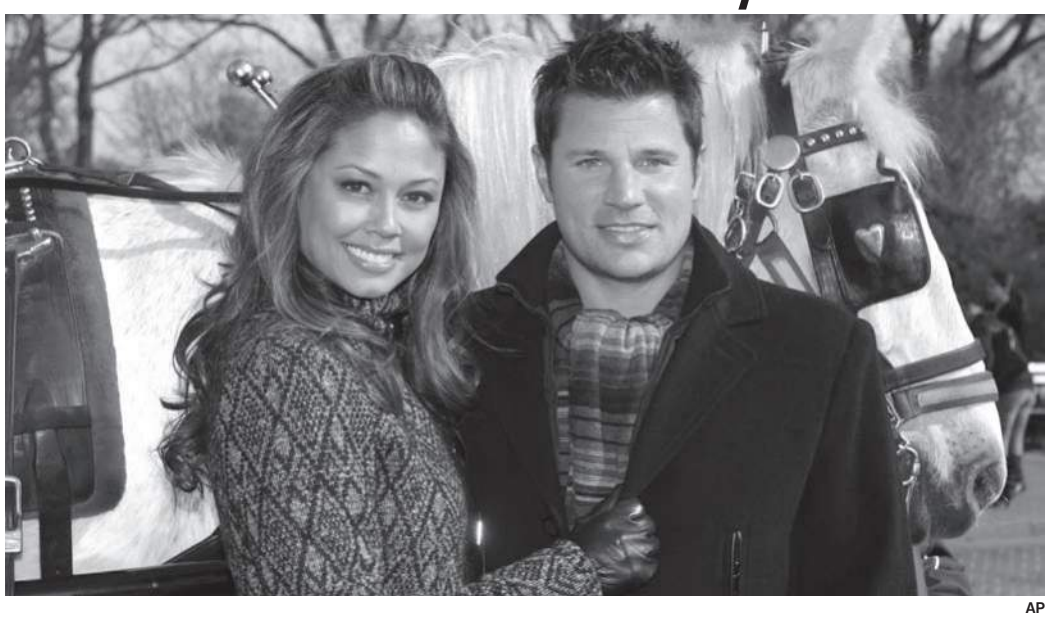
The show received a prestigious George Foster Peabody award earlier this year and was lauded for combining humor and poignancy. This week, series co-star Andre Braugher received an Emmy nomination as best supporting actor in a drama series.

Romano, Braugher and Scott Bakula played three longtime friends each facing middle age and various life crises. Romano, the former "Everybody Loves Raymond" star, co-created "Men of a Certain Age."

AP

In this May 23, 2011, file photo, "Men of A Certain Age" cast members, from left, Scott Bakula, Ray Ramano and Andre Braugher pose together during the 70th Annual Peabody Awards at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York.

Vanessa Minnillo and Nick Lachey are married



AP

In this Feb. 9, 2010 photo, Vanessa Minnillo and Nick Lachey pose together with a carriage horse in New York's Central Park.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—After dating for more than five years, Nick Lachey and Vanessa Minnillo are married.

A spokeswoman for Minnillo confirms that the couple wed Friday. People magazine first reported the nuptials.

Publicist Melissa Raubvogel provided no other details.

The 37-year-old singer and 30-year-old actress announced their engagement in November. Lachey was previously married to Jessica Simpson.

He is host of NBC's "The Sing-Off." She was host of ABC's "True Beauty."

Will sixth time be the charm for Steve Carell?

NEW YORK (AP)—His "Office" character Michael Scott may be utterly clueless, but Steve Carell knows a thing or two. And when it comes to his sixth Emmy nomination for best actor, Carell jokes he's got it in the bag.

He says: "Of course, what could possibly go wrong? How could I lose?"

Carell was nominated for his final season on the hit NBC comedy—his last chance to take home the trophy for his role as the inept Dunder Mifflin branch manager.

Carell says he'll be attending the Emmys with low expectations and no regrets. His upcoming romantic comedy "Crazy, Stupid, Love," opens July 29.

He says a win would be "great," but he cherishes the friendships he made during the show's six-year run above all else.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Murdoch tabloid Sun denies Jude Law hacking claim

LONDON (AP)—Jude Law is taking legal action against The Sun newspaper, claiming the Rupert Murdoch-owned tabloid hacked into voice mails for stories about his private life. Murdoch's News International strongly denies the claim, accusing the actor of "a deeply cynical and deliberately mischievous attempt" to drag The Sun into the hacking scandal that has brought down its sister paper, the News of the World. In a statement Friday, News International said Law's allegations "have no foundation whatsoever" and vowed to vigorously fight his claim. Law's law firm, Atkins Thomson, declined to give details of the claim, which it said "will be considered by the court in due course." Law is also suing the News of the World. That case is due to be heard next year.

Loretta Lynn recovering at home from dehydration

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)—Country star Loretta Lynn says she is recovering from heat exhaustion that forced her to cancel two weekend shows —and that she'll need to stay out of her garden in the stifling heat. The 76-year-old said in a statement Friday that "there ain't a tomato worth it." The Country Music Hall of Famer canceled shows in eastern Ohio and Connecticut after being hospitalized for heat exhaustion and dehydration. She's now home resting. Lynn lives on a ranch west of Nashville. Temperatures across the southeast soared in recent days. Lynn plans to perform on Nashville's Grand Ole Opry on July 23, and resume touring Aug. 1. Her 1977 autobiography, "Coal Miner's Daughter," was made into a film.

Man is charged with stalking Paris Hilton

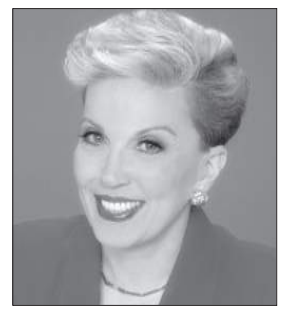
LOS ANGELES (AP)—A man accused of stalking Paris Hilton has pleaded not guilty to felony charges that could land him in jail for five years. City News Service says 36-year-old James Rainford entered pleas Friday in Los Angeles to two felony stalking charges and three misdemeanor counts of disobeying a court order to stay away from the socialite. Rainford was arrested on the Fourth of July after paparazzi recognized him outside Hilton's Malibu home. It was his third arrest in less than a year related to Hilton. Rainford is jailed on $150,000 bail. Jail records don't indicate whether he has an attorney. Rainford was released from jail in May after serving time for misdemeanor battery. Authorities say he had tried to grab Hilton's then-boyfriend outside a courthouse earlier this year.

Lady Antebellum delays US show over family loss

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP)—Lady Antebellum has announced the sudden postponement of an Ohio concert due to a death in the family. The country music trio says on its website that band member Hillary Scott's grandmother has died, so the Grammy-winning group won't perform as scheduled Friday night at the Toledo Zoo Amphitheatre. The sold-out show has been rescheduled for Aug. 10. Lady Antebellum says it still plans to appear Saturday night at a music festival in Sarnia, in the Canadian province of Ontario.

Not-so-friendly Facebook post might prompt debtors to pay up

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I loaned money to a couple of family members when I was overseas. They had fallen behind on their bills, so I sent them each $1,000 to get caught up.

It's two years later, and I have yet to see a dime from either one of them. I have sent them both letters asking to have "some" money paid back; both sent me excuses about why they can't pay anything. However, on Facebook they write about how they went shopping, joined a gym and so on. I feel I have been taken advantage of. What can I do to get this settled?

TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF IN MINNESOTA

DEAR TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF: Try this ... post on your Facebook page: "It's funny what short memories some people have. I loaned 'Tom' and 'Geri' $1,000 two years ago when they fell behind on some bills. Instead of repayment, I have received nothing but excuses—and all the while I see their postings about shopping at the mall and going to the gym. What DEADBEATS!"

Maybe it will shame your relatives into paying up. (Or not, because some people have no shame.)

DEAR ABBY: Do I have to stop wearing my wedding ring? My husband died three years ago. We had been married 53 years and 12 days. Abby, I pledged "until death do us part." I just can't seem to make myself take off the ring he put on my finger so many years ago.

I'm tired of being told that I "have" to give up something so precious to me. Is there a time limit, or is it OK for me to go ahead with wearing the ring and ignore the people who pester me about taking it off? Maybe a time will come when I'll want to, but not now, not yet. Please give me some sound advice.

ARIZONA WIDOW

DEAR WIDOW: Please accept my sympathy for your loss. Widows and widowers usually remove their wedding ring at the point when they decide they would like to begin dating again. When they do, some of them choose to move the ring from their left to the right hand. Others put it away as a treasured keepsake.

There is no set time at which your wedding ring "must" come off. If and when you feel the time is right, it will happen—or not. This is a personal decision that no one can or should make for you.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 15 years old, and I'm afraid to kiss! I won't date anyone because I'm afraid my kiss will suffer by comparison. I know no one becomes an expert without practice, but I don't want anyone to be my first kiss.

Several guys are into me, but I can't date them because eventually they'll want to kiss. It would be so embarrassing to be horrible at it. Any advice?

TOO FREAKED OUT TO MAKE OUT

DEAR FREAKED OUT: Kissing isn't a competitive sport, so stop worrying that you won't measure up. A kiss doesn't have to be the way it's portrayed in the movies, with heavy breathing and mouths agape. Whether a guy wants to kiss you isn't as important as whether you WANT him to kiss you. If you do, all you have to do is close your eyes, tilt your head a bit to the side and lean in. He will take care of the rest.

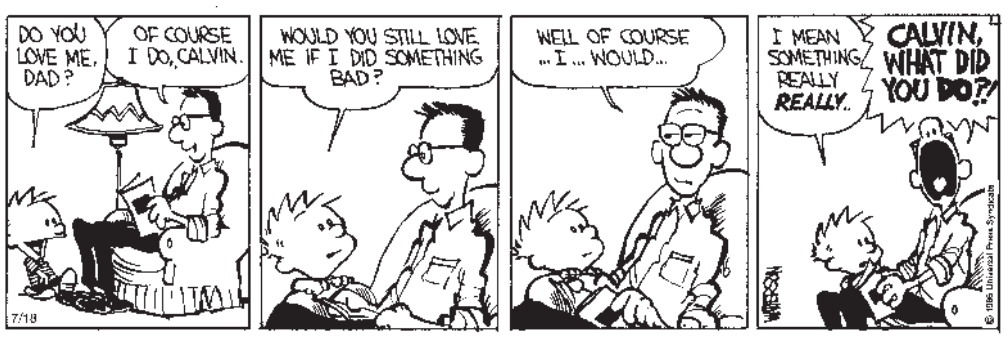
I remember my first "real" kiss. I was 12, and my parents had decided to move from Wisconsin to California. I had a crush on a 16-year-old usher at the local movie theater. (He looked so handsome in his uniform!) Two weeks before we were scheduled to leave, I summoned the courage to approach him after a show, told him I was leaving, and asked if he'd give me my first real kiss. Once he got over his visible surprise, he did. It was sweet, gentle, chaste, and I've never forgotten it.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


DO YOU LOVE ME, DAD?
OF COURSE I DO, CALVIN.
WOULD YOU STILL LOVE ME IF I DID SOMETHING BAD?
WELL OF COURSE ... I ... WOULD...
I MEAN SOMETHING REALLY REALLY.
CALVIN, WHAT DID YOU DO?!
7/18
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Garfield®

By Jim Davis

GARFIELD, DO YOU EVER WONDER WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE WORLD?
THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON?
YOU'RE PATHETIC
THERE'S A WORLD?
JIM DAVIS 7-18
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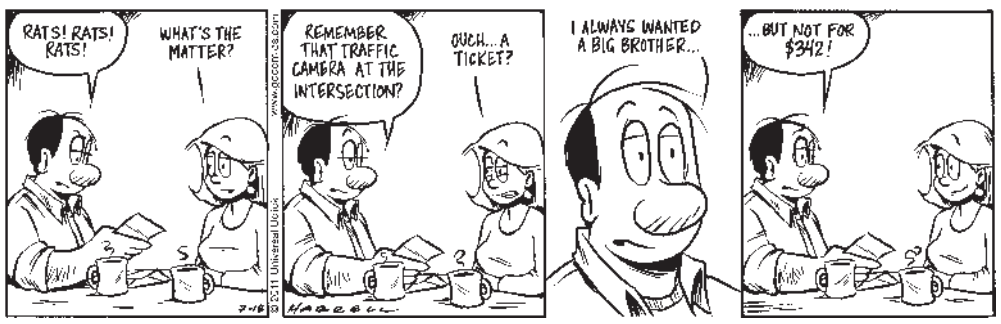
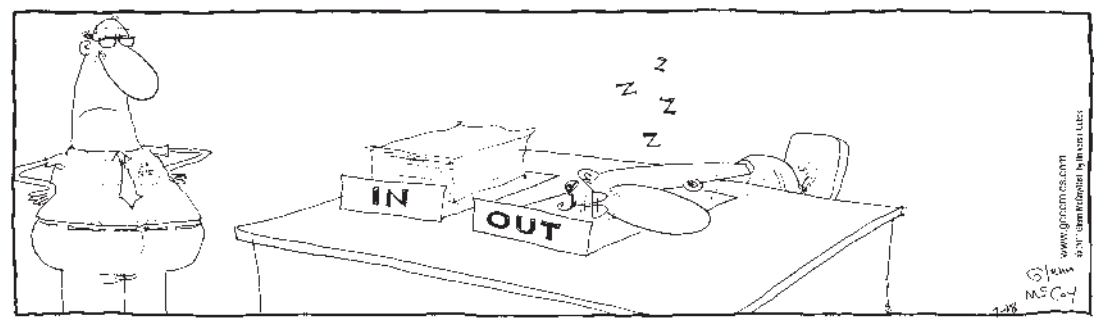
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

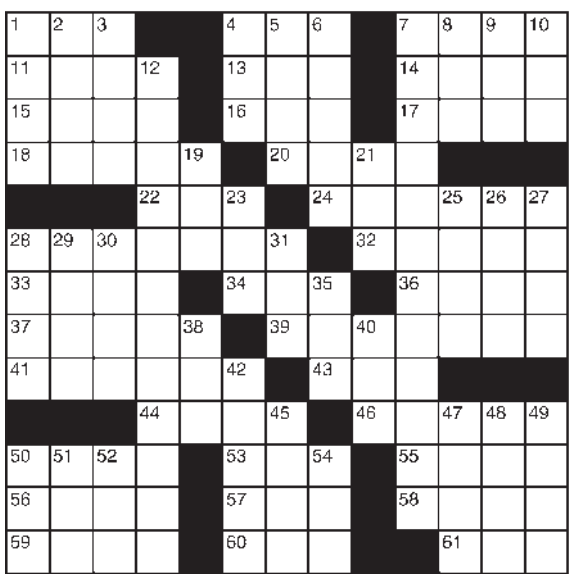
ACROSS
1 "Sweet as apple cider" gal of song
4 Go slaloming
7 Young bovine
11 Body powder
13 Stashed
14 Culture medium
15 Napoleon's exile isle
16 Right angle
17 Inquisitive
18 Villain
20 Like a — balloon
22 24 hours
24 Don, as loafers
28 Where earth meets sky
32 Source of annoyance
33 "Zounds!"
34 Cambridge sch.
36 Speaker's stand
37 Wonderland visitor
39 Geckos et al
41 Show-offy know-it-all
43 Swab the floors
44 Unadorned
46 Ms. Winfrey
50 Shrek is one
53 Work with
55 Come in last
56 Tea time
57 Scratch
58 Basin accessory
59 Forum garment
60 Type of dog
61 Despondent

DOWN
1 Couple, in a gossip column
2 Evans or Carnegie
3 Actress Jessica
4 That woman
5 Slay
6 Runs in neutral
7 Halloween treat
8 Past
9 — Vegas
10 Saute
12 Allen Funt's TV show
19 Nickname in Red Sox lore
21 Matterhorn, for one
23 — Kippur
25 Bosc or Bartlett
26 "Metamorphoses" poet
27 Loch — Monster
28 Pile
29 Lascivious look
30 Incursion
31 Zero
35 Conway or Curry
38 Away from WSW
40 Menagerie
42 "The Apprentice" VIP
45 Birthright barterer
47 Columns' crossers
48 On the briny
49 Cattle group
50 Frequently, in verse
51 Sticky stuff
52 Carpet
54 Work unit

Solution time: 24 mins.

■	S	O	R	T	S	■	R	H	O	M	B	■
S	C	R	A	W	L	■	I	O	N	I	A	N
T	A	T	T	O	O	■	V	O	O	D	O	O
O	R	E	■	S	T	O	U	T	■	A	B	E
M	A	G	S	■	H	A	L	■	V	I	A	L
A	B	A	T	E	■	R	E	V	E	R	B	S
■	■	■	F	I	M	■	T	I	N	■	■	■
S	T	A	L	K	E	D	■	M	O	S	E	Y
C	O	N	E	■	I	A	U	■	M	I	R	O
A	R	E	■	P	H	Y	L	A	■	C	R	Y
B	A	M	B	O	O	■	C	U	C	K	O	O
S	H	I	E	L	D	■	E	T	H	E	R	S
■	S	A	L	E	S	■	R	O	A	N	S	■

Saturday's answer 7-18



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18– only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Chace Crawford, 26; Kristin Bell, 31; Vin Diesel, 44; Wendy Williams, 47.

Happy Birthday: Do whatever it takes to get your finances in order. You will be able to get ahead if you are prepared to make sacrifices. Greater opportunities are apparent, and recognition will be yours if you offer your skills and expertise. Don't be afraid to ask for favors. Love and romance are highlighted. Someone who depends on you will not want to accept some of the changes you make to your home or to the way you live. Your numbers are 3, 5, 12, 23, 28, 30, 42.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Your uncertainty will show, requiring you to heed the suggestions of a good friend or relative. Be cautious, however, that you don't allow anyone to take over. Listen to what's being said and take action. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Put a little oomph into what you are doing. It?s not enough to go through the motions when so much depends on performance these days. Less talk and more action will bring great results. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You have to see people and situations for what they are and react accordingly. Someone you work with may be trying to sabotage your efforts. Impulse purchases must be avoided. Precision will be necessary when dealing with institutions. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Put your imagination to work. Your changing philosophy and spiritual quest will encourage you to alter the way you do things. Travel, networking and communicating with someone from your past are all favored. ✪✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Work quietly behind the scenes on investments, deals or settlements. Share information with as few people as possible. A professional opportunity may not be as promising as portrayed. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Make room at home to work on a project that has the potential to turn into extra cash. Getting in touch with someone you haven't seen for a long time will be uplifting. Let love blossom. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Focus on what you can accomplish. It's important to recognize when something is at a standstill. Let your intuition guide you in money matters, as well as in affairs of the heart. It is better to address a situation face to face rather than at a distance. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): With a little discipline, you will be able to finalize deals, make good investments and resolve settlements. Your concern, coupled with common sense and logic, will help you come up with a plan that benefits everyone involved. Romance is on the rise. 5 stars

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Do your own thing and refrain from trying to get the approval of those you know are not on the same page as you. Changes made at home will help you utilize your time and space better. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You'll have greater insight into moneymaking and how to best put your talents to work. Don't be afraid to apply a little pressure if it will help you get things done to your specification. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): You can settle your differences with someone whom you owe or who owes you. Keep your emotions intact and refrain from making a scene if someone does something you don't like. Get household chores out of the way. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You aren't likely to see things too clearly. Don't act before you have had a chance to evaluate the facts and figures available to you. Love is in the stars, so put time aside for someone you love. A solid offer looks promising but may require taking on too much responsibility. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are genuine, caring, ambitious, imaginative and outgoing. You gravitate to subjects, hobbies and pastimes that are unusual.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			8		5		7	
	2	7			1		4	5
	8			3				
7			5				6	9
		2				4		
8	6				7			2
				8			5	
5	3		6			1	2	
	4		2		9			

Difficulty Level ★ 7/18

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

8	9	1	2	3	6	5	4	7
6	3	4	7	1	5	9	8	2
7	2	5	8	9	4	6	3	1
3	1	6	9	5	7	8	2	4
4	7	2	6	8	1	3	9	5
9	5	8	3	4	2	7	1	6
5	6	9	1	2	8	4	7	3
1	8	7	4	6	3	2	5	9
2	4	3	5	7	9	1	6	8

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 7/5

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SPERCH THERAPISTS — Solution: 11 letters

A	Y	E	E	H	C	O	U	N	S	E	L	I	P	M
C	E	P	S	X	A	T	N	Y	S	L	N	A	H	S
L	O	R	A	O	D	H	C	T	I	P	T	T	S	T
C	A	M	O	R	N	N	Y	K	C	I	Y	E	I	S
H	Y	C	M	M	E	G	S	L	E	H	N	I	G	I
R	R	A	I	U	E	H	A	N	R	T	I	E	N	G
E	R	O	L	G	N	C	T	I	E	A	D	L	S	O
S	E	F	I	E	O	I	H	N	D	U	E	V	D	L
E	C	I	O	V	D	L	C	A	C	Ⓖ	I	L	T	O
A	O	D	U	N	A	E	O	A	N	T	Ⓡ	R	C	H
R	R	A	U	C	S	H	T	R	T	I	A	Ⓞ	L	T
C	D	O	C	A	R	E	E	R	U	I	C	E	Ⓤ	A
H	S	E	E	R	G	E	D	B	N	E	O	A	R	Ⓟ
I	N	T	O	N	A	T	I	O	N	S	N	N	L	T
T	S	I	R	T	A	I	H	C	Y	S	P	E	L	L

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Accent, Aeromechanical, Behavior, Career, Child, Clearly, Communication, Cope, Counsel, Degree, Delay, Diagnose, Educate, Fluency, Group, Harsh, Intonation, Neurological, Pathologists, Patient, Pitch, Psychiatrist, Records, Research, Rhythm, Sentences, Signs, Skill, Sound, Spell, Syntax, Therapy, Train, Treat, Voice

Yesterday's Answer: Curling

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

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FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

UNION BANK, Plaintiff, -v- **JUAN L. EVANGELISTA,** Defendant.	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 94-1046** **THIRTEENTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Second Amended Order issued by the Court in this matter on August 2, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Tract 22845-19 (part of original tract 22845-REM, A.H. 31), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2083/84, the original of which was recorded August 2 1984, as Documented No. 84-1398 at the office of the Commonwealth Recorder, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Wednesday, August 24, 2011, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 11th day of July, 2011:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Justino and Laisang Ramon
P.O. Box 503442
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No. 288-0677

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTION OF: **JESSICA MARIE RAMON** Minor Child By **JUSTINO RAMON and LAISANG N. RAMON** Petitioner	**FCD AD CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0293** **NOTICE OF HEARING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Adoption for the above-named minor child by Justino and Laisang Ramon Petitioners, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court and is open for review at the office of the Clerk of the said Court in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A HEARING of said petition for Adoption will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Guma Hustisia Building, Susupe, Saipan, NMI, before the Honorable Perry B. Inos on the **29th day of August, 2011 at 1:30pm** or as soon as thereafter.

Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Colin M. Thompson, Esq.
THOMPSON LAW OFFICE, LLC
J.E. Tenorio Building
PMB 917 Box 10001
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
Telephone: (670) 233-0777
Facsimile: (670) 233-0776
Bar No.: F0221

Attorney for the Executor

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: **CHARLES P. REYES SR.,** Decedent.	**CIVIL CASE NO. 06-0544** **NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FINAL DISTRIBUTION OF ESTATE ASSETS**

Date: August 2, 2011
Time: 9:00 am
Judge: Hon. Ramona V. Manglona

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **August 2, 2011** at **9:00a.m.**, a hearing on the Executor's petition for Final Distribution in the above-matter will be heard.

Dated this 14th day of July, 2011.

/s/ Marylou Villagomez

By: Clerk of Court

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

JOB VACANCY RE-ANNOUCEMENT

It is the policy of the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) that equal opportunity is given to all qualified citizens and nationals as defined by the CNMI Constitution regardless of age, gender, marital status, political status, disability or place of origin. MVA is an equal opportunity employer.

JVA 11-004

POSITION TITLE	:	**Trades Technician II**	
PAY LEVEL	:	22/01 – 22/08	
ANNUAL SALARY	:	$15,860.10 - $22,302.94	
LOCATION	:	Marianas Visitors Authority, Rota	
Opening Date	:	7/18/2011	Closing Date : 8/2/2011

**The salary given will be determined by the qualification of the appointee.

HOW TO APPLY
Interested persons may contact the Marianas Visitors Authority Tinian Office at (670) 433-9365, the MVA Rota Office at (670) 532-0327, or the MVA Saipan Office at (670) 664-3200/01 for detailed description of the position, and employment application forms. A completed application should be submitted together with the required documentation to complete the application process no later than the closing date of this announcement.

MVA is an equal opportunity employer.

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find today's solution in this section

Bumpy road looking pretty good now for Americans

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) —The bumpy, windy road got the Americans right where they wanted to go all along.

Eight months after having to win a playoff just to get to Germany, the Americans face Japan in the Women's World Cup final on Sunday. A win would be the ultimate finish to their improbable journey, making the United States the first three-time champions and delighting a country of newfound fans.

"I believe all the way we'll find a way," Carli Lloyd said Saturday after the team's last training session. "It's going to be a tough match like every other match has been, but I believe that we will find a way and it's our destiny to get it done."

For a long time, the Americans were about the only ones who believed that.

The U.S. is the No. 1-ranked team in the world and defending Olympic champion, and the Americans have dominated the women's game for the better part of two decades now. But they arrived at the World Cup looking, well, kind of average. They were stunned in regional qualifying in November in Mexico, a team that hadn't managed a win in its first 25 tries against its neighbor to the north, and had to beat Italy in a two-game playoff for the very last spot in the World Cup.

They opened the year with a loss to Sweden, then fell to England for the first time in 22 years—so long ago Alex Morgan hadn't even been born yet. Then, after easy wins in their first two games in Germany, the Americans lost to Sweden again, their first loss ever in World Cup group play.

AP

United States' Abby Wambach, right, high-fives teammate Christie Rampone during a training session in preparation for the final match against Japan during the Women's Soccer World Cup in Frankfurt, Germany, Friday, July 15, 2011.

"In the past, we'd always won everything," captain Christie Rampone said. "Those losses made our team what it is today. We need each other and you feel that, from the locker room to the time we step on the field."

Never was that faith in each other more evident than in their quarterfinal against Brazil. Down a player for almost an hour and on the verge of making their earliest exit ever from a major tournament, Abby Wambach's magnificent, leaping header in the 122nd minute tied the game and sparked one of the most riveting finishes ever in a World Cup game—men's or women's.

The Americans beat Brazil in a penalty shootout and, just like that, the folks back home were hooked.

Hollywood celebrities, fellow pro athletes and people who don't care about any sport, let alone soccer, have adopted the players. The Brazil match drew the third-highest ratings ever for a Women's World Cup game, and Wednesday's semifinal victory over France did almost as well—despite being played in the middle of the workday back home.

The Empire State Building is lit with the red, white and blue this weekend, along with Japan's colors. And the White House is sending an official delegation led by Vice President Joe Biden's wife, Jill, and Chelsea Clinton, who just happened to be part of that massive Rose Bowl crowd 12 years ago, the last time the Americans won the title.

"We've proved everyone wrong," Lloyd said. "Now I think everyone is starting to believe in us. We've won everybody over, which is tremendous because the support back home has been unbelievable."

While part of the U.S. appeal is its success here, it's the team's spunk that has really charmed fans, a can-do attitude uniquely—proudly—American.

This might not be the best team the U.S. has ever had, but none will try harder.

"We are disappointed in the kind of soccer we played in last few games. It's just not the kind of soccer we want to play," Wambach said. "Sometimes games turn into what games turn into and you have to deal with what you've got and somehow find a way and figure it out. And that's what we did and that's something to be proud of and that's what we take away from it.

"But against Japan, we want to do and play the way we've been training. We don't want it just to be a dogfight. We want it to be a game people can watch and be excited about."

Japan will have something to say about that, of course.

The Nadeshiko have never beaten the Americans—draws in 2000, 2003 and 2004 are the best they've managed in 25 games—and have been outscored a whopping 77-13. They have three losses this year alone to the U.S., including a pair of 2-0 defeats in warmup games a month before the World Cup began. This also is Japan's first final at a major tournament, having lost to the U.S. in the semifinals at the Beijing Olympics.

"Of course it's something I bring up," U.S. coach Pia Sundhage said. "We've been there before, we've done it before."

But Japan is a far better team than the one the Americans saw in May, having upset pre-tournament favorite Germany in the quarterfinals and Sweden in the semifinals. The Nadeshiko's ball-handling skills are exquisite, drawing comparisons to Barcelona for their lightning quick passes and slick combination play, and they dominate possession as if it's a game of keepaway.

They've shown a nice scoring touch, too, their 10 goals at the World Cup second only to the 11 scored by the U.S. The ageless Homare Sawa has been a marvel, sharing top-scoring honors with Marta with four goals.

"Why shouldn't we be confident?" Sawa asked.

Japan also has powerful motivation, knowing it has provided some emotional relief for a nation still reeling from the March 11 earthquake and tsunami. The team displays a banner reading "To our Friends Around the World—Thank You for Your Support," after every game, and coach Norio Sasaki inspired his players before the quarterfinal by showing them pictures of the devastation.

But the Americans remain confident, just as they were through every pothole and dip in their bumpy road.

"Nothing worries me right now," Sundhage said. "You have to enjoy the moment. Look at the road we've taken. If I get worried, I just have to look back at that road."

Clarke avoids the weather, takes the lead

SANDWICH, England (AP) —About the only predictable part of this British Open is the weather.

The biggest surprise is the list of contenders for the claret jug.

The weather was wild again Saturday, shifting from a raging wind to a gentle sea breeze, from a driving rain to brilliant sunshine, and leaving most of the field wet, tired and feeling as though they got the short end of the draw. That's not unusual.

More peculiar was seeing Darren Clarke atop the leaderboard after a 1-under 69, his first time in contention at any major in 10 years. Right behind was Dustin Johnson, who was 4 over through the opening 13 holes of this championship and somehow wound up in the final group.

Thomas Bjorn, who threw away the British Open eight years ago at Royal St. George's, was the first alternate at the start of the week and now is only three shots behind. There's also a 22-year-old who plays without fear and makes it look fun - only it's not U.S. Open champion Rory McIlroy, but Rickie Fowler—"Little Rickie" as they call him in these parts.

Could anyone have predicted these storylines at the start of the week?

"No," Johnson replied. "I was playing pretty well, but you never know, especially coming into a British Open."

At least Sunday might be a little easier to sort out.

Clarke escaped the worst of the raging weather Saturday, leaving him far less traffic on his unlikely road to a claret jug.

He was dressed in full rain gear when he walked to the first tee for a third round that had been crowded with contenders. When he walked off the 18th green in short sleeves, he had a one-shot lead and was blinking in the bright sunshine over Royal St. George's.

There were 44 players within five shots of the lead going into the third round.

Now there are 12.

"If somebody had given me 69 before I was going out to play, I would have bitten their hand off for it," Clarke said. "Saying that, we did get very fortunate with the draw. Sometimes to win any tournament, the draw can make a big difference. But in The Open Championship, it makes a huge difference. We got very lucky."

He also was very good.

Clarke missed only two greens in regulation, and was one of only three players who managed to break par. It was his third round in the 60s, and it put him at 5-under 205 and into the final group of the British Open for the first time since 1997 at Royal Troon.

Fewer contenders doesn't make it any easier.

Johnson, the powerful 27-year-old American, managed to make six birdies on his way to a 68 that puts him in the final group for the third time in the last six majors. The other two aren't exactly glorious memories—an 82 to lose a three-shot lead at the U.S. Open last year, a two-shot penalty on the last hole of the PGA Championship when he didn't realize he was in a bunker.

"I'm going to be pretty comfortable out there tomorrow because I know what to expect, I know how to approach it, and I know what I do in those situations," Johnson said. "So hopefully, I can go out tomorrow and play some solid golf like I've been doing the last few days."

Fowler was soaked, zipped up in a cream-colored rainsuit for two-thirds of his round, yet it never seemed to bother him. He hung around par during the worst of the conditions—a remarkable feat—and when the rain went away, he took off to higher ground. Fowler made three birdies over the last six holes for a 68 and was two shots behind, along with Thomas Bjorn (71).

Fowler played with McIlroy, whose hopes ended with a tee shot that went out-of-bounds on the 14th. He shot 74 and was nine shots behind.

Lucas Glover, a U.S. Open champion who played in the final group Saturday, made 10 straight pars early in his round only to lose his way, but not his hopes over the final hour. Glover missed two birdie putts inside 6 feet on the back nine, and made two bogeys. He shot 73, but still was within four shots. He was tied with Miguel Angel Jimenez, who didn't make a birdie in his round of 72.

Also still in the mix is Phil Mickelson, who has only contended once in the British Open. He rallied when the sun began to break through the clouds and salvaged a 71, leaving him five shots back in a group that included Anthony Kim (68), PGA champion Martin Kaymer (73) and Ryder Cup captain Davis Love III, who tied for fourth at Royal St. George's in 2003 and had a 72 to stay in range.

But it starts with Clarke, a 42-year-old from Northern Ireland who has been watching the youngsters from Ulster celebrate golf's biggest events, from Graeme McDowell at Pebble Beach last summer to McIlroy at Congressional last month.

Is it his turn at this stage in his career?

"Did I ever doubt I would get myself back in this position? No," Clarke said. "Did I know it was going to happen? No. Did I hope it was going to happen? Yes. But did I ever doubt? No."

Once he finished his own Q & A, Clarke headed to the home of agent Chubby Chandler to "stuff his face" and try not to have too much to drink.

A big day awaits Sunday, perhaps the biggest of his career.

And the forecast isn't very friendly.

Typical of the weather in this part of the world, anything goes. There's supposed to be a mixture of sunshine and passing showers that could be heavy but won't stick around for long. The constant is the wind, which again is likely to gust upward of 30 mph at times. A one-shot lead is nothing on Royal St. George's in calm conditions, and anyone at par or better figures to be in the mix.

No other major championship depends so largely on the weather, and that was never more clear on Saturday.

Sabathia first in majors to win 14

TORONTO (AP)—CC Sabathia won his seventh straight start to become the first 14-game winner in the majors as the New York Yankees beat Toronto 4-1 in the American League on Saturday, ending the Blue Jays' five-game winning streak.

Derek Jeter got two hits and matched Al Kaline for 26th place on MLB's career list. Jeter singled in the ninth for hit No. 3,007.

Brett Gardner doubled in the second, hustled for a double and scored in the fourth, then stole second after reaching on a bunt single in the sixth.

Sabathia (14-4) allowed one run and three hits in eight innings. He walked three and struck out eight.

The left-hander has struck out 59 and posted an ERA of 1.68 over his career-best seven-start winning streak. Sabathia has won 11 of his past 12 outings, his only defeat in that span being a June 9 home loss to Boston.

AP

New York Yankees starting pitcher CC Sabathia throws against the Toronto Blue Jays during the first inning of a baseball game, Saturday, July 16, 2011, in Toronto.

Red Sox 9, Rays 5

At Florida, Boston's Dustin Pedroia, Jacoby Ellsbury and Josh Reddick homered as the Red Sox rallied from an early three-run deficit to beat the Tampa Bay Rays 9-5 in the American League on Saturday.

Reddick's two-run homer got Boston rolling after Casey Kotchman, Matt Joyce and B.J. Upton all hit first-inning RBI singles to give Tampa Bay's All-Star pitcher James Shields (8-8) a quick lead.

Ellsbury went deep for the second day in a row with a solo shot off Shields in the fourth.

White Sox 5, Tigers 0

At Detroit, Edwin Jackson pitched his first complete game since his no-hitter last year, steering Chicago past Detroit.

Jackson (6-7) earned his third career shutout, needing only 101 pitches, compared to the 149 he used as an Arizona pitcher last season to hold Tampa Bay hitless.

Juan Pierre had four hits and Carlos Quentin hit a solo homer for the White Sox.

Tigers starter Max Scherzer (10-5) allowed two runs in eight innings.

Angels 4, Athletics 2, 1st game
Athletics 4, Angels 3, second game, 10 innings

At Oakland, Los Angeles downed Oakland in the opening game of the majors' first scheduled doubleheader in eight years.

While plenty of doubleheaders are held to make up for games cancelled or cut short by the weather, this was the first one written into the schedule since 2003.

Angels starter Jered Weaver (12-4) won his sixth straight decision, not giving up a hit until the fifth. He allowed two runs in 6-2/3 innings.

Erick Aybar homered and Bobby Abreu drove in two runs for Los Angeles.

A's starter Trevor Cahill (8-8) lasted seven innings, allowing three runs and walking five.

Orioles 6, Indians 5

At Baltimore, Alfredo Simon pitched seven innings of three-hit ball, Nick Markakis homered and scored three runs, and the Orioles ended a nine-game losing streak.

Baltimore took a 6-2 lead into the ninth inning before closer Kevin Gregg gave up three straight one-out walks. After Lonnie Chisenhall struck out, Orlando Cabrera cleared the bases with a double.

Twins 4, Royals 3

At Minneapolis, Michael Cuddyer singled home the go-ahead run in the eighth inning and Joe Nathan did his job as the new closer, giving Minnesota a win over Kansas City.

Nathan finished for his fourth save in seven chances. Earlier in the day, the Twins put the former All-Star back into his familiar role, replacing the struggling Matt Capps.

Mets 11, Phillies 2

At New York, Scott Hairston, subbing for ailing All-Star Carlos Beltran, hit a long homer and drove in a career-best five runs as the New York Mets hammered the Philadelphia Phillies 11-2 in the National League on Saturday.

Daniel Murphy also went deep to help the depleted Mets snap a three-game skid. Beltran sat out with a fever, so manager Terry Collins inserted a not-so-secret weapon against Philadelphia starter Cole Hamels (11-5).

Marlins 13, Cubs 3

At Chicago, Mike Stanton hit two home runs to help power Florida past Chicago.

Stanton had three hits and drove in four runs. He hit a leadoff homer in the fourth inning and added a three

Marlins starter Javier Vazquez (6-8) went seven innings, striking out ten. He allowed only one hit through the first 5-1/3 innings.

Hanley Ramirez hit three doubles and scored three times, and Logan Morrison added a three-run homer as Florida won for the seventh time in eight games.

Cardinals 4, Reds 1

At Cincinnati, Ibert Pujols hit a three-run homer—his second in two days—and Chris Carpenter stymied the NL's most prolific offense again, leading St. Louis to a victory over the Reds.

Pujols connected in the fifth inning off Bronson Arroyo (7-8). It was Pujols' 20th homer overall and his third since returning from a broken left wrist.

Astros 6, Pirates 4

At Houston, Humberto Quintero hit the go-ahead single in a three-run eighth inning to lift the Astros over Pittsburgh.

The Astros trailed 4-3 before Hunter Pence walked and scored on a fielder's choice to tie it up in the eighth. Clint Barmes reached on an error by Brandon Wood when his grounder bounced off his glove and into the outfield to leave runners at the corners with one out.

Nationals 5, Braves 2

At Atlanta, John Lannan gave up two runs in 5 2-3 innings and had his first two hits of the season to lead Washington.

Lannan (6-6) also drove in two runs and earned the win eight days after he escaped with only a small cartilage break in his nose when he was hit by a line drive.

Diamondbacks 3, Dodgers 2

At Phoenix, Brandon Allen hit a three-run homer in his first start back in the majors to provide Ian Kennedy all the support he needed and lift Arizona over the Dodgers.

Allen, recalled from Triple-A Reno on Friday, connected off Hiroki Kuroda (6-11) in the second inning and Kennedy (10-3) overcame some late control problems to become Arizona's first 10-game winner. Fill-in closer David Hernandez worked a perfect ninth for his eighth save.

Padres 11, Giants 3

At San Diego, Jesus Guzman and Orlando Hudson each hit three-run homers, and rookie Corey Luebke pitched seven strong innings to help the Padres snap a season-high seven-game losing streak.

Guzman had a career-high four RBIs for the NL's worst offensive team.

Guzman connected off Barry Zito (3-2) in the first inning and Hudson hit his long ball off the lefty in the third inning to give San Diego a 7-0 lead.

Brewers 8, Rockies 7

At Denver, Rickie Weeks hit a two-run homer in the ninth inning as the Milwaukee Brewers came back after squandering a seventh-inning lead and beat Colorado 8-7 Saturday night in a game that included the ejections of Rockies manager Jim Tracy and catcher Chris Iannetta.

With two outs in the ninth and the score tied at 6-6, Huston Street (0-3) walked Prince Fielder. Weeks followed with a drive that just cleared center fielder Dexter Fowler's attempt for a leaping catch at the wall.

Francisco Rodriguez (3-2), making his Brewers debut after being acquired Tuesday from the New York Mets, pitched a scoreless eighth inning.

Lawsuit, NFLPA's status unresolved

NEW YORK (AP)—Re-establishing the union and figuring out exactly what it will take to for nine NFL players including Tom Brady to settle their antitrust suit against the league are among key issues blocking a deal to end the lockout, people familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press on Saturday.

Even after owners and players made significant progress this week, potential sticking points remain, according to the people, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the talks are supposed to remain confidential.

The unresolved matters also include how the TV networks case, in which the players accused the owners of setting up "lockout insurance," will be settled.

Among the parts mostly squared away:

- how the more than $9 billion in annual league revenues will be divided;
- a rookie salary system;
- free agency rules.

The NFL's first work stoppage since 1987 began in March, when owners locked out players after negotiations broke down and the old collective bargaining agreement expired. The NFL Players Association announced it was dissolving itself and would no longer be a union that could bargain for all players under labor law, instead saying it was now a trade association. That allowed players to take their chances against the NFL in federal court under antitrust law, and star quarterbacks Brady, Peyton Manning and Drew Brees were among those who did.

There is a possibility that the sides will be able to put together a tentative agreement in principle in time to keep the preseason completely intact. The exhibition opener is scheduled to be the Hall of Fame game between the St. Louis Rams and Chicago Bears on Aug. 7, and as of Saturday, no preseason games had been canceled.

The league's owners have a special meeting set for Thursday in Atlanta, where they potentially could ratify a new deal—if one is reached by then. Any agreement also must be voted on by groups of players, including the plaintiffs in the antitrust suit and the NFLPA's 32 team representatives.

Members of the legal and financial teams for the two groups met in New York on Saturday, while NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell and NFLPA head DeMaurice Smith spoke with each other. The larger negotiating teams that gathered for more than 30 hours of intensive face-to-face talks spread across Wednesday through Friday—including owners and current or former players—did not meet Saturday.

The court-appointed mediator, U.S. Magistrate Judge Arthur Boylan, has been on vacation but previously ordered both sides to meet with him Tuesday, when the framework for a deal could be concluded.

"The parties will be in touch with Judge Boylan to give him a report on developments in advance of next Tuesday's session and will consult with him on how to make the best use of the time before our league meeting on Thursday," NFL spokesman Greg Aiello wrote in an email.

Among the parts of the deal that people familiar with the negotiations told the AP are largely in place:

- The players' portion of the league's full annual revenues will be on a sliding scale with a floor of 46.5 percent and a ceiling of 48.5 percent. There no longer will be the old formula, under which owners got a cut off the top for various operating expenses before revenues were divided.

The new percentages represent a decrease for players, because they were winding up with a higher percentage under the old contract, which is among the main reasons spurring owners to opt out of that deal. According to NFLPA figures, the players got 52.7 percent of all league revenues in 2006, 51.8 percent in 2007, 51 percent in 2008, and 50.6 percent in 2009. There was no salary cap in 2010. As far back as 2000, meanwhile, the players' take was 56.5 percent of all revenue.

The players are still hoping, though, to get a commitment from owners that each team will spend a minimum amount of the cap.

Marquez vows war vs Pacquiao

BOXING

MEXICO (AP) — So much for Juan Manuel Marquez getting in some quality rounds before his anticipated third bout with Manny Pacquiao in November.

The future hall of famer knocked Likar Ramos out cold with a picture-perfect straight right hand midway through the first round of a scheduled 10-round junior welterweight bout on Saturday in Cancun, Mexico.

The fight, which was streamed live on Toprank.tv in the U.S., was supposed to serve as a tune-up for his mega-fight with Pacquiao on Nov. 13.

Marquez (52-5-1, 38 knockouts), who stopped Michael Katsidis in defense of his world lightweight title last November, did not want to be inactive for a one year before he resumed his rivalry with Pacquiao, hence the interim bout with Ramos (24-4, 18 KOs).

AP

Juan Manuel Marquez, left, and Manny Pacquiao pose for a photo before their fight in 2008.

However, despite being the older man by 12 years, Marquez quickly dispatched the 25-year-old southpaw from Colombia.

"Sometimes that's the way fights go, they're short," Marquez told Top Rank commentator Raul Marquez (no relation) after the fight. "I wanted to go more rounds, but I got a great punch on him and he couldn't take it."

So fans did not get a chance to see how well Marquez, who doesn't appear to fight effectively above 135 pounds (the lightweight limit), would carry the 138 pounds he weighed in at for Ramos.

Marquez's fight with Pacquiao, a welterweight titleholder, is set at a 144-pound catchweight, which concerns some of his fans.

He looked sluggish while dropping an embarrassingly one-sided decision to Floyd Mayweather Jr. in a welterweight bout in September of 2009. Marquez, who weighed in at 142 pounds for that bout, did not possess his usual quick reflexes which helped him give Pacquiao hell in their first two bouts.

Marquez held Pacquiao to a controversial draw in 2004 featherweight bout and then dropped a razor-thin split decision to the Filipino icon in their heated rematch set at junior lightweight (130 pounds).

Marquez, who turns 38 next month, said he will do a better job of putting on weight for his third shot at Pacquiao bout than he did for Mayweather.

"I want (Pacquiao) to prepare well, because I'm going to prepare well," said Marquez, who added that Mayweather's style was a factor in his dismal performance against the ultra-talented American.

"Mayweather's a defensive fighter, he wins rounds with a just few punches and he doesn't let you do much," he said, "but with me and Pacquiao it's going to be a war."

In the co-featured bout of the show, Marquez's younger brother Rafael Marquez, a former bantamweight and 122-pound champ, got rid of some ring rust by dispatching overmatched journeyman Eduardo Beceri after five rounds of one-sided action.

Marquez (40-6, 35 KOs), scored a fourth-round knockdown with a well-timed left hook, was credited with a sixth-round TKO when Beceri, a last minute substitute, failed to get off of his stool for the start of the sixth round.

SNIPER

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Grill finished fourth place out of the nine teams. Mixed Blood 1 members include captain Mario Espinoza, Romy Intendez, Angelo Hernaez, Jeff Barit, and Mario Jumalon.

Ali'i Consulting's Kamote's of,Jonny's Bar & Grill finished first place in the eight-member Tuesday B-League, ahead of Buddies' Salbahe Brothers and third-ranked D'Pirates' Mixed Blood Shooters. Ali'i Kamote's is composed of captain Heidi Aquino, Kaysie Aquino, Eric Pascual, Peejay Naval, Jerome Sembrano, Mac-Mac Aranda, Eric Dimzon Aquino, and Conrad Cuengco.

Jonny's IT&E Kamote's won top prize in the eight-member Thursday B-Fanihi League. Team Sabalu of Charlie's Sports Bar came in second, while Buddies' Akiramenai Buddy placed third. IT&E Kamote's is made up of captain Heidi Aquino, Kaysie Aquino, Eric Pascual, Jek Jek Dionisio, Mark Cris Badal, Peejay Naval, Jerome Sembrano, and Jay Nunag.

Buddies' Wild Shooters triumphed against eight other teams in the Thursday B-Flame Tree Division, ahead of runner-up Naked Fish Na'Gupu, third place Oleai's Why Not, and fourth place Oleai's No fear. Wild Shooters members include captain Mara Lambon, Pepe Orola, Jojo Guilas, George Medina, and Renato Barros.

Jonny's Dosukebe Boys won first place in the six-team C-Kingfisher Division. IT&E's Anies Imuza finished second and Jonny's Night Hawks came in at third place. The Dosukebe Boys are made up of captain Hironori Kamei, Scott Guerrero, Kento Togawa, Noke Rogopes, Naoki Chida, and Naum Veknov.

D'Pirates' Team Sang won first place in C-Chichirika Division, topping a field of six. Sister team Lucky Shot came in second, while Bar Gaia's Gaiana-C placed third. Team Sang members include captain Ray Agulto, Ray Indalecio, Jun Manaloto, Isaac Aguon, Jun Amirez, Ivin Cabrera, and John Torres.

D'Pirates' Aschooschoo took top honors in the the six-member Ladies Division, ahead of runner-up Jonny's Yakau and Buddies' Sistah!. Aschooschoo is made up of captain Aida Laniyo, Matrina Lisua, Emily Vargas, Rufina Guevarra, and Bhek Dizon.

Meanwhile, the Department of Public Works' Trouble Shooters ruled the 3rd Bud Light Lime Inter-Government League.

The Wild Bill's-sponsored Trouble Shooters are composed of team captain Sam Babauta, Jesse Iglecias, Joe Mafnas, Jack DL Guerrero, Jenny Cabrera, and Isaac Cangco. Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's Power Plant and Public School System's Drivers finished second and third, respectively. Trophies were presented to all the winners.

LOYOLA

From Page 28

one of my most treasured moments. It was an honor representing the Commonwealth and teaming up with former Pacific Oceania Davis Cup captain Jeff Race," said Loyola, who was also a member of the Philippine Motocross Team for three years before returning to tennis in 2002.

Loyola thanked Race for helping him become a PTR member and doubles partner and former NCAA standout Kirk Schuler for his tips. He also acknowledged Tan Holdings, Jerry and Lydia Tan, Mr. Park, Izuka family, IT&E, and the parents of his students for supporting the tournaments he organized.

"I learned a lot from them and I thanked them for sharing their knowledge to me. I will miss them and my students. I hope my students will continue to improve their games and one day represent the CNMI in regional competitions, too," Loyola said.

The 43-year-old teaching pro added that he hopes to bring his students in Japan to Saipan someday and compete in tournaments here.

In Japan, Loyola will be joining former Davis Cupper and Jinji head coach Shai Gigi of Israel, the U.S.' Jeff Webb, Czech Republic's Martin Bouska, and Japan's Takaharu Tanno.

Jinji Tennis Center holds lessons at the Hilton Tokyo and various schools in Shinjuku. The center is famous for its elite junior tennis program, which is a 16-month session with 6:1 student-teacher ratio.

PANGELINAN

From Page 28

"Finally I won again. It's been awhile," said Pangelinan in a brief interview during the awards presentation at SBC in San Jose Saturday evening. "Perseverance is key to winning. Just keep on playing. Keep on trying," he added.

Pangelinan made it to the finals outright when he topped the nine-game elimination rolloff. He carded 1,768 pinfalls in the elimination round for an average of 198.44. Pangelinan had a slow start, scoring less than 200 pinfalls in the first four games (179, 185, 181, and 185) before heating up in the next two games (245 and 227). He was cold again in Game 7, posting only 160 pinfalls, but had a solid finish with 218 and 188 pinfalls in Games 8 and 9 for a slim two-pinfall lead over second finisher Leong (1,766).

Leong settled for a second slot in the stepladder finals and joined three other qualifiers—Raymond Angeles (1,756), Ronald Epan (1,748), and Raymond Zapanta (1,713).

The last three qualifiers had a playoff game for the right to face Leong in the semifinals. Zapanta won with his 177 pinfalls, besting the 161 and 158 of Angeles and Epan, respectively. Then in the semifinals, Leong prevailed over Zapanta, 207-146. Leong extended his winning streak with a nine-pinfall victory over Pangelinan in Game 1 of the finals before the latter came out in Game 2 with a bang to win the coveted plum.

The battle for the PBA-Budweiser Bowler of the Year trophy featured the 12 monthly winners from July 2010 to June 2011 and 14 other keglers who made the grade in the qualifying tournament.

All the monthly winners received trophies and gift certificates, while Pangelinan went home with $800 besides the trophy. Leong and Zapanta got $450 and $300, respectively Cash prizes were also given to the fourth to eighth placers. Angeles pocketed $200, Epan went home with $100, Ruselle Zapanta received $85, and Percy Omechelang and Simon Manacop had $70 and $50, respectively.

Last year's PBA-Budweiser Bowler of the Year Robert Talavera only finished 10th, one notch behind Alex Castro. The two bowlers received gift certificates.

MIEKO

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17th overall, while Dasong was more than nine minutes behind (5:39:43).

However, Carey failed to sustain her momentum in the final leg of the race—a 42.195-km full marathon race—after clocking in at 3:32:18 (unofficial). Dasong finished the last leg of the event in less than three hours to grab the top honors.

According to Carey's friend and fellow runner Mamiko Oshima-Berger, the former got dehydrated midway in the marathon race and lost precious time to Dasong.

Despite failing to top the women's division, Carey's runner-finish was still a big one because as of 8pm last night (Saipan time), only nine female triathletes completed the race. Carey was also one of the only two female participants to finish the long race in less than 10 hours.

The event started at 6:30am with Shingo Tani claiming first place overall with a time of 8:26:20. Completing the Top 3 in the men's division were Hiroshi Fujiwara (8:29:53) and Yoichiro Hata (8:42:28). Yesterday's race drew about 900 individual participants, but only 150 have checked in at the finish line 12 hours after the event kicked off.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	56	36	.609	—
New York	54	37	.593	1 1/2
Tampa Bay	50	42	.543	6
Toronto	47	48	.495	10 1/2
Baltimore	37	54	.407	18 1/2

Central Division

Cleveland	49	43	.533	—
Detroit	49	45	.521	1
Chicago	46	48	.489	4
Minnesota	43	49	.467	6
Kansas City	38	56	.404	12

West Division

Texas	54	41	.568	—
Los Angeles	51	44	.537	3
Seattle	43	51	.457	10 1/2
Oakland	41	54	.432	13

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	58	35	.624	—
Atlanta	55	39	.585	3 1/2
New York	47	46	.505	11
Washington	47	47	.500	11 1/2
Florida	45	49	.479	13 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis	50	44	.532	—
Milwaukee	50	45	.526	1/2
Pittsburgh	48	44	.522	1
Cincinnati	46	48	.489	4
Chicago	38	57	.400	12 1/2
Houston	31	63	.330	19

West Division

San Francisco	54	41	.568	—
Arizona	50	44	.532	3 1/2
Colorado	45	49	.479	8 1/2
Los Angeles	42	52	.447	11 1/2
San Diego	41	54	.432	13

Yesterday's Games

N.Y. Yankees 4, Toronto 1
Boston 9, Tampa Bay 5
Chicago White Sox 5, Detroit 0
L.A. Angels 4, Oakland 2, 1st game
Baltimore 6, Cleveland 5
Minnesota 4, Kansas City 3
Oakland 4, L.A. Ange
Florida 13, Chicago Cubs 3
N.Y. Mets 11, Philadelphia 2
Houston 6, Pittsburgh 4
St. Louis 4, Cincinnati 1
Washington 5, Atlanta 2
Arizona 3, L.A. Dodgers 2
Milwaukee 8, Colorado 7
San Diego 11, San Francisco 3
ls 3, 10 innings, 2nd game
Texas 5, Seattle 1

BRITISH OPEN SCORES

SANDWICH, England (AP) — Scores Saturday in the British Open on 7,211-yard, par-70 Royal St. George's Golf Club (a-amateur):

Third Round

Darren Clarke	68-68-69 –205
Dustin Johnson	70-68-68 –206
Rickie Fowler	70-70-68 –208
Thomas Bjorn	65-72-71 –208
Miguel Angel Jimenez	66-71-72 –209
Lucas Glover	66-70-73 –209
Anthony Kim	72-68-70 –210
Phil Mickelson	70-69-71 –210
Anders Hansen	69-69-72 –210
George Coetzee	69-69-72 –210
Davis Love III	70-68-72 –210
Martin Kaymer	68-69-73 –210
Zach Johnson	72-68-71 –211
Ryan Palmer	68-71-72 –211
Tom Lehman	71-67-73 –211
Chad Campbell	69-68-74 –211
Raphael Jacquelin	74-67-71 –212
Simon Dyson	68-72-72 –212
Webb Simpson	66-74-72 –212
Steve Stricker	69-71-72 –212
Adam Scott	69-70-73 –212
Fredrik Jacobson	70-70-73 –213
Y.E. Yang	71-69-73 –213
Charl Schwartzel	71-67-75 –213
Tom Watson	72-70-72 –214
Trevor Immelman	70-72-72 –214
Charles Howell III	71-70-73 –214
Richard Green	70-71-73 –214
Sergio Garcia	70-70-74 –214
Rory McIlroy	71-69-74 –214
Robert Rock	69-71-74 –214
Pablo Larrazabal	68-70-76 –214
Bo Van Pelt	73-69-73 –215
Bubba Watson	69-72-74 –215
Yuta Ikeda	69-71-75 –215
a-Tom Lewis	65-74-76 –215
Louis Oosthuizen	72-70-74 –216
Richard McEvoy	69-72-75 –216
Seung-Yul Noh	69-72-75 –216
Robert Allenby	69-72-75 –216
Gary Woodland	75-68-74 –217
a-Peter Uihlein	71-71-75 –217
Mark Wilson	74-68-75 –217
Gary Boyd	71-70-76 –217
Jason Day	71-70-76 –217
Kyle Stanley	68-72-77 –217
Jeff Overton	68-71-78 –217
K.J. Choi	71-72-75 –218
Henrik Stenson	72-71-75 –218
Jim Furyk	72-70-76 –218
Kenneth Ferrie	71-71-76 –218
Stewart Cink	70-71-77 –218
Stephen Gallacher	70-71-77 –218
Rory Sabbatini	71-70-77 –218
Ryan Moore	69-74-76 –219
Floris De Vries	70-73-76 –219
Edoardo Molinari	69-74-76 –219
Harrison Frazar	72-70-77 –219
Gregory Bourdy	73-70-77 –220
Simon Khan	71-72-77 –220
Fredrik Andersson Hed	68-75-77 –220
Ricky Barnes	68-74-78 –220
Paul Casey	74-69-78 –221
Gregory Havret	72-71-78 –221
Bill Haas	72-70-79 –221
Justin Rose	72-70-79 –221
Joost Luiten	73-69-79 –221
Spencer Levin	72-69-81 –222
Matthew Millar	71-72-80 –223
Paul Lawrie	73-70-81 –224
Jung-Gon Hwang	68-74-83 –225

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEEKEND SPORTS

CNMI sluggers fall short in ASPAC

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI All-Stars' participation in the 2011 Asia-Pacific Little League Regional Championship at the Northern Region Sports Complex in Dededo, Guam was the biggest event last week and unfortunately, the Commonwealth bets bowed out of the competition.

The Randall Aguon-coached squad had a wining debut in the ASPAC after shutting out the Philippines, 10-0. However, that was the only time the CNMI youth sluggers won, as they dropped their last three games in Pool B.

In the second day of the tournament, the CNMI Little League All-Stars lost to eventual Pool B finisher Korea, 0-8, and suffered back-to-back losses after bowing to Hong Kong, 5-8,

Then in a must-win game against Guam, the CNMI led, 4-0, with only one inning left, but the host rallied to eke out an 8-4 triumph.

Pool A top finisher Chinese-Taipei eventually clinched the ASPAC championship after beating Korea in the rain-delayed finals, 3-1. It was Chinese-Taipei's third straight title in the ASPAC, while the CNMI extended its drought to five years after having won the division the last time in 2006. Chinese-Taipei will now represent Asia-Pacific to the World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, next month.

In other significant events last week, CNMI athletes heading to off-island competitions were upbeat about their participation in international contests, while in a local tournament, the BANMI women's league had its second round of games.

Swimmer Rezne Wong and biker Matthew Mancao are heading to Shenzhen, China, next month for the World University Games and are excited to be the first ones to represent the Commonwealth to the FISU-sanctioned competition.

Also bound for off-island events are athletics' Yvonn Bennett and Orrin Joseph Ogumoro Pharmin and Grace Kimball. The two CNMI sprinters will participate in the 2011 IAAF World Championships in Daegu, Korea, next month, while Kimball will join Wong and Victoria Chentsova in the 14th FINA World Championships in Shanghai, China this week.

In football, the CNMI U15 Team left Saipan for a mini camp in Japan and a stint in the 2011 East Asian Football Federation U15 Youth Tournament in Taiwan.

In basketball, only the BANMI women's league being played at the indoor TSL Sports Complex pushed through with its games, while other competitions were rescheduled due to heavy rains.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Franco Nakamura pitches for the CNMI during their game against Guam in the 2011 Asia-Pacific Little League Regional Championship at the Northern Region Sports Complex in Dededo, Guam last week.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
The CNMI's Juden Joyner waits for a pitch during their game against Guam in the 2011 Asia-Pacific Little League Regional Championship at the Northern Region Sports Complex in Dededo, Guam last week.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Party Rockers' Kaylani Lebria, left, and teammate Melody Johnson, right, and Mix-A-Lot's Dion Diaz battle for the loose ball during their game in the BANMI women's caging at the TSL Sports Complex.

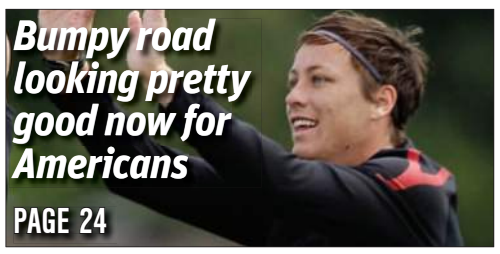
Fiesta hosts 5-on-5 beach soccer

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan will be holding the 2nd Annual Fiesta Beach Soccer 5-on-5 Tournament on Aug. 6.

Fiesta sports and recreation manager and tournament coordinator Lucio Aldan said they are hoping to have at least 10 teams for the one-day competition. Registration is from 7am to 8am and teams will be given one hour to warm up. Games will begin at 10am. Entrance fee is only $30 per team.

The winning team will receive $500, while the runner-up will take home $300. Tournament rules will be decided on the day of the competition and only players in the 18 and over age group will be allowed to participate.

For more information, contact Aldan at 234-6601 or 287-3191 or email at lucio_aldan@fiestasaipan.com ***(PR)***



Saipan Tribune
Sports

Mieko finishes second in Kaike Triathlon

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Mieko Carey recorded her best finish in the Kaike Triathlon yesterday after placing second in the women's division of the weekend race in Tottori, Japan.

KAIKE TRIATHLON

Carey completed the grueling event in nine hours, 50 minutes, and 49 seconds, more than 30 minutes behind women's champion Sha Li Dasong (9:20:13). Her time in the Saturday race was better than last year's (9:56:38) where she finished third in the women's division. The CNMI triathlete also surpassed her overall ranking in 2010 (43rd), coming in at 36th overall yesterday.

The 33-year-old triathlete posted 47:54 in the 3-kilometer swim and was the third woman out of the water behind Dasong (43:40) and Chi Ohara (46:48).

Behind by less than five minutes, going into the lung-busting 145-km bike race, Carey caught up with Dasong and took the lead. Carey submitted 5:30:37 in the bike race, the best among the female riders and

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▶ Mieko Carey, seen here heading back to the water for the swim leg of the 2009 XTERRA Saipan, finished second in yesterday's Kaike Triathlon in Japan.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Pangelinan ends 10-year drought

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Finally, after a decade, Paul Pangelinan hoisted the PBA-Budweiser Bowler of the Year trophy again.

Pangelinan was named the 2011 PBA-Budweiser Bowler of the Year—the same title he earned in 2001—after surviving Richard Leong in the step-ladder finals on July 10 at the Saipan Bowling Center.

Leong won Game 1 of the finals, 173-164, to extend the championship showdown. In the deciding Game 2, Pangelinan came out with vengeance in mind and routed Leong, 183-145, to claim his second PBA-Budweiser Bowler of the Year plum.

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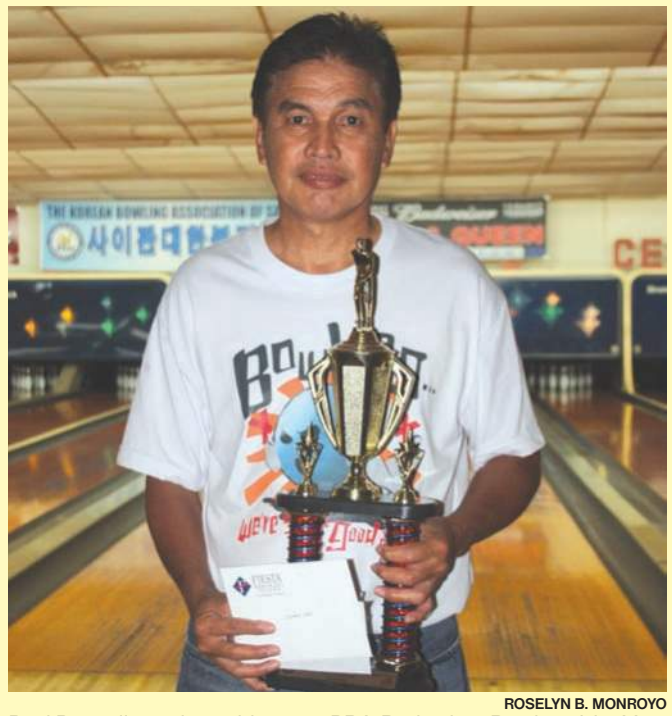

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Paul Pangelinan shows his 2001 PBA-Budweiser Bowler of the Year trophy during the awards presentation at the Saipan Bowling Center Saturday night.

Loyola joins Jinji Tennis Center

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Micronesian Games silver medalist Peter Loyola will leave Saipan at the end of this month to join the prestigious Jinji Tennis Center in Tokyo, Japan.

"I will be one of the five coaches at Jinji Tennis Center. This is a big challenge for me and I would like to thank all the Saipan players and coaches for helping me prepare for this another chapter in my life," said the former Fiesta Resort &Spa Saipan tennis instructor.

Loyola came to Saipan in 2004 and later joined several local tournaments and had his share of wins in these events. In less than two years, he became a tennis instructor at Fiesta, teaching both youth and adults players.

In 2007, the former collegiate varsity player in the Philippines became a member of the U.S.-based Professional Tennis Registry. Then in 2010, Loyola, received a professional certification from PTR, joining the company of more than 14,000 teaching pros from 122 countries in Asia, Europe, and the U.S.

Less than a month after getting his teaching pro certificate, he represented the CNMI to the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau and won three medals. He claimed silver medals both in the singles and team event and won a bronze in the doubles.

"Playing for the CNMI was

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Peter Loyola, seen here training with the CNMI Team last year, will be leaving Saipan this month to join the Jinji Tennis Center in Tokyo, Japan.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Sniper Destroyers win Masters crown

BY WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Masters division's Sniper Destroyers of Oleai Beach Bar & Grill took home the top honors in yesterday's Saipan Electronic Dart Association awards banquet held at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom.

The Sniper Destroyers finished the regular season in first place ahead of runner-ups Black Stallions of Buddies' Bar & Grill and sister team D'Companeros. Sniper Destroyers are made up of captain Wiily Cuesta, Pam Ybanez, Anie Leegaspi, Jeff Barit, Romy Intendez, and Rolly Morales.

The Mixed Blood Shooters 1 of D'Pirates Bar & Grill won first prize in A Division, beating sister teams Kanto Boyz and Oleai's Celebrity. The Naked Fish Boyz of Naked Fish Bar &

See SNIPER on Page 26

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Members of the Sniper Destroyers of Oleai Beach Bar & Grill pose with their Masters division championship trophies during the Saipan Electronic Dart Association awards banquet held yesterday at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom.